



THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3346.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1891.

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THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1891.

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LITERATURE

A Vision of Life: Somblance and Reality.
By William Gifford Palgrave. (Macmillan & Co.)

SCHOLAR, soldier, missionary, diplomatist, William Gifford Palgrave might fitly stand for a type of the English race, to whom, as Tacitus said of their Teutonic forefathers, rest is an unwelcome thing. A nineteenth century Ulysses,

Qui mores hominum multorum vidit et urbes, who sacrificed an Oxford reputation for an Indian cadetship, and abandoned a promising career in the army for the life of a Jesuit missionary—relinquishing that, in its turn, for the service of the Queen in some of the unkindest outposts of the Empire—his personality, like that of Laurence Oliphant, was fascinating, but enigmatic, in its protean developments. His prose works, especially that masterpiece of description, the 'Narrative of a Year's Journey through Central and Eastern Arabia,' gained him a high place among the Maundevilles of our generation, and testified, by their clean-cut diction, to the thoroughness of his early classical training. But all through his eventful existence, as we now know, he was meditating a task of still greater importance—nothing less, in fact, than an epic embodying the results of his varied experience in many lands, and setting forth in ordered verse his ripened views of men and things. It is this poem which has just been given to the world under the name of 'A Vision of Life'; and though it is, unfortunately, incomplete (the later cantos having never received the author's final revision), all lovers of fine poetry will rejoice that it has been allowed to see the light, and will recognize its dignity and power.

There is a splendid autobiographical passage in one of Milton's tracts of polemical theology, the 'Reformation of Church Government,' published some twenty-six years before the completion of 'Paradise Lost,' which throws much light upon the aims and methods of the great Puritan poet. "Neither do I think it shame," he says,

"to covenant with any knowing reader that for some years yet I may go in trust with him towards the payment of what I am now indebted, as being a work not to be raised from the heat of youth, or the vapours of wine, like that

which flows at waste from the pen of a vulgar amator, or the trencher fury of some rhyming parasite, nor to be obtained of Dame Memory and her siren daughters; but by devout prayer to that Eternal Spirit, who can enrich with all utterance and knowledge, and sends out his seraphim with the hallowed fire of his altar to touch and purify the lips of whom he pleases. To this must be added industrious and select reading, steady observation, and insight into all reading, steady observation, and insight into all

seemly and generous arts and affairs."

In something of the same spirit we can imagine Palgrave preparing himself for the great achievement of his life. His wanderings in East and West gave him the insight of which Milton speaks, and like his mightier prototype he was steeped in the literatures of many nations. As the writer of the short biographical notice quoted from the *Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society* observes:—

"Beside his familiarity with the extensive poetical treasures of Arabia, he knew the 'Commedia' of Dante almost by heart; and English poetry of the highest order was constantly in his hands and on his lips. The lucid brilliancy of style remarked in his Arabian narrative, in fact, was due to these studies; he regained the purity of his native language, after many years spent almost wholly amongst foreigners, by a careful six months' preparatory work among the masterpieces of English literature."

When he turns to the poem itself—mutilated and imperfect as it is—which was the outcome of this ever-conscious devotion to a lofty purpose, the reader is struck at once with the stateliness of language and variety of cadence that it exhibits. The choice of a metre unfamiliar to English ears, and apt to grow monotonous in spite of the deftest handling, must be regarded as unfortunate. There is nothing to show that the author could not have employed with marked success the medium of blank verse; and had he done so, he might have secured a far larger and more appreciative audience. But even in his self-imposed fetters of rhyme he moves, when at his best, with ease and distinction. Take, as an example, the picture of London and its toiling millions as seen from Hampstead Heath (canto v. of Book I.):—

And wide before us spread the Southern day,
Where a broad river 'midst the plain beneath

In silvery patches shone 'twixt roof and spire
Of a great City, that girt as with the wreath
Of a world's empire either bank; and higher
Spread on the farther slopes: a smoke-dark cloud,

By day a veil, by night a vault of fire
O'erarched the labyrinth streets, where a vast
crowd

Like their own river ceaseless ebbed and flowed,
With eager steps, and faces downward bowed.
Dust-soiled they thronged along the pavement
road,

Nor raised their eyes to the far sky that ever
Stainless above that smoke-soiled canopy glowed,
But they like circling lines that pass and quiver

Traced on a downward stream, in hurrying press
Eager renewed their purposeless endeavour.

And still from out that brick-piled wilderness

Flashed forth new shapes, new wonders, as the
old

Faded; and greater still was given for less;
While midmost high o'erhead in tarnished gold,
Unheeded it by all, in proud neglect

A Cross of times outwore the story told.

It would not be difficult, did our space permit, to pick out from the poem a score of passages equally fine—or, indeed, finer—in execution. The main defect in the 'Vision,' however, strikes us as being a certain incoherence and desultoriness of plan, which

renders it at times difficult reading, by the editor's own admission:—

"The universal sway of the twin Powers, Life and Death, seems to be in one part forgotten or arbitrarily limited; the geography of the Vision is occasionally obscure; the Seven Kingdoms themselves are not very clearly discriminated, their boundaries in some degree remain indistinct; the same characters once or twice recur in different regions."

But, as he says, with undeniable truth, a good deal of this uncertainty is due to the fact that as the poem advances it is progressively less revised, and many excrescences would doubtless have been pruned away and much inconsistency removed had the author lived to finish his work. His views on Progress, written from a standpoint of profound scepticism as to the so-called "advance of civilization," and deeply tinged with the Oriental dislike for change in any form, as leading not to improvement, but to degeneracy and decay, might possibly have received some modification. As they appear in the 'Vision of Life' they are sufficiently outspoken and uncompromising, when, for instance, the poet anathematizes the chief glories of the Victorian age—the Forth Bridges and Crystal Palaces of our "progressive" century (canto xi. of Book III.):

Such was the nearer scene; but distant viewed
Vast piles of gathered wealth, and things that
told

Of busy crowds around th' horizon stood;

Bridges of monstrous span, and iron mould,

In outstretched meanness, huge monotonies,
Their sullen length from bank to bank unrolled:

And serried chimneys tall, that the pure skies

Sully with vaporous breath, and at their feet

The sleepless glare of clangling factories.

Nor wanted high-built tower nor dome complete

In palace-semblance reared; but all, alas,

Were but a figured show, a hollow cheat.

Of painted metals vile and common glass

From base to glittering crown, an empty thing;

"The earth has bubbles, as the water has,"

Then spoke my guide; "What prize, what failure,
bring

Science with skill combined, the golden age

Of Man o'er Nature, Master, Lord and King,

Prefigured here thou seest; when the blind rage

Of progress, change, and wealth, the threefold gin,

Shuts on the self-trapped life its iron cage.

With all its minor blemishes the 'Vision of Life' is a poem of which its author had good reason to be proud. Its varied and picturesque excellence is but scantly shown in the passages we have quoted; but the nervous strength of its verse and its striking felicities of phrase will, we think, be apparent even on the most cursory inspection. It may be regarded as a quarry of Pentelic marble, out of which a Parthenon or Erechtheum might under happier circumstances have been erected; and as it stands it contains enough poetic material to equip a host of minor verse-builders.

The Government of Victoria (Australia). By Edward Jenks, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law in the University of Melbourne. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE growth of Victoria and of the marvellous city of Melbourne, with its half million of inhabitants, the work of little more than one generation, must be an object of interest not only to those who have watched the colony from its commencement, but to all who look forward to the probable future of the British people. The aptitude of that race for colonization has become proverbial,

and the means by which in Australia it has adapted Old World institutions to novel circumstances is the subject of Mr. Jenks's volume. He has dealt with his subject lucidly as well as exhaustively, following the gradation of authority from the Governor down to the petty constable, and has discussed the whole in a calm judicial manner, making every allowance for difficulties and shortcomings:—

"When the founders of the Victorian political system took upon themselves the task of organizing the colony upon a self-governing basis, they had no time to spare for choice of methods. The exigencies of the situation were so acute that they simply seized the nearest implements and fell to work. The pressure of circumstances sharpened their faculties, and the result of their labours was effective for existing circumstances, if not finally complete."

He might have added that this herculean task devolved upon a number of young men, not one of whom had enjoyed an official training, in the midst of a social convulsion caused by the gold fever, which we believe to have been unparalleled.

This volume is a compilation and enlargement of lectures delivered to the Law Class in the University of Melbourne. The author is sensible that his own limited experience of the colony would militate against his efficiency in dealing with this comprehensive subject, and he gracefully acknowledges the aid he has received from several colonists whose position rendered them especially able to assist him. The first portion of the work is semi-historical, commencing from the time (June 7th, 1836) when the first settlers, thirty-four in number, met and appointed Mr. James Simpson to act as umpire in all disputes until a regular police magistrate could be appointed. Some of his awards are still extant. In them we trace the germ of the legal system now in force, consisting of every court known in England, together with some others peculiarly required by colonial pursuits. Soon afterwards the petition of the settlers led to the appointment of Capt. Lonsdale as police magistrate. The current story is that he was sent with a few sticks of sealing-wax, a few bunches of red tape, and a very moderate supply of stationery. Thus commenced the extended and well-organized civil service, with its efficient acts to regulate its pay, pension, superannuation, and promotion. Not only does our author describe these organizations as they exist at the present time, in doing which he is accurate, but he indulges in some speculations as to the future, that must remain problematical. He doubts whether the system of responsible government, that is of government by party, as we understand it in this country, can permanently continue in Australia, inasmuch as no parties, properly so called, exist. That they will develop themselves as long as human nature remains unchanged is, we think, a safe prediction. Other elements of success which he alludes to may be wanting, and this want may impair the efficiency, but will not destroy what he terms "the Cabinet system." The statesmen (for such they were) who laid the foundation of constitutional government no doubt took as their model the English constitution. Full powers were given by

the Imperial Parliament to the local legislatures to effect any alterations, and the result is before us in these pages. The outcome of legislation by a British community, in which democracy is unchecked by the many influences which modify its action in England, must possess an interest for all. For good or for evil, that element is becoming predominant, and we may infer that its future course in this country will be the same as it has adopted in Greater Britain. It is remarkable that in several measures the older country has been anticipated by its younger offspring—such as vote by ballot, in which the Victorian system is adopted verbatim; the abolition of a property qualification for members of Parliament; the abolition of public nomination at elections; the abolition of public executions; free, secular, and compulsory education; the establishment of a general system of municipal government not only in towns, but throughout the "shires" comprising nearly the whole colony. Whether Great Britain will follow the experiments of Disestablishment, of triennial Parliaments, of payment of members, and of an elected Upper House remains to be seen. Certain it is that colonial legislation has often led the way. Australian local synods formed the model on which the Irish Church was reconstructed, and it is the earnest wish of legal reformers that they could follow the Torrens Act for simplifying the sale of land and for the registration of titles; but hitherto professional obstacles have thwarted their efforts. That the future legislation of England may be inferred from the experience of Australia is a sufficient reason for studying the 'Government of Victoria' under Mr. Jenks's able guidance.

The Colleges of Oxford: their History and Traditions. Twenty-one Chapters contributed by Members of the Colleges. Edited by Andrew Clark, Fellow of Lincoln College. (Methuen & Co.)

Early History of Balliol College. By Frances de Paravicini. (Kegan Paul & Co.)

MR. ANDREW CLARK may be congratulated on the performance of a considerable feat. He has not only persuaded twenty Oxford dons—notoriously the most difficult class of men to be persuaded to write anything except lectures—to produce a series of chapters on the colleges of their university, but he has also succeeded in maintaining a very fair average of excellence through the whole book. Unity of design it would be impossible to expect, nor is it to be desired; for a systematic treatment which should deal in order with the foundation of each college, its statutes and their alterations from time to time, the studies of its members, its benefactors and famous men, and the various fortunes which befell the society in the troubles of the Reformation and the Puritan war, would be monotonous and wearisome if systematically carried out. As it is, the writers seem to have been pretty much left to themselves, and their style and manner are sufficiently varied to prevent the inevitable sameness of a good deal of their matter from becoming unpleasantly conspicuous. The Provost of Queen's and Mr. Rashdall, for instance, in their accounts of Queen's and New College supply an admir-

able picture of college life and studies in the Middle Ages. The President of Corpus does the same good service for the period of the Renaissance. The Warden of Merton, on the other hand, presents us with a sketch of the history of his college even less substantial than the 'Memorials' which he published for the Oxford Historical Society in 1885, and Mr. Boase with an abridgment of his preface to the 'Register of Exeter College'; while University College has the misfortune to receive the poorest treatment of all the colleges. This is the more to be regretted because the chapter on University College is the first in the book, and the reader, unless forewarned, is likely to take it as a sample of its successors. As a fact, whether in its pretentious archaism of style or in its inadequate selection of materials, it stands by itself. It is all very well to dispose of the old fables about King Alfred's "University"; but it really is not worth while. The edifice was sufficiently ruinous when Mr. James Parker, in his 'Early History of Oxford,' finally demolished it. In order to tell this many-times-told tale, Mr. F. C. Conybeare has had to cut his narrative short at the reign of William and Mary. He has based his account mainly on the collections of William Smith, who wrote early in the last century, and seems not to have qualified himself by any special studies for making use of them. Surely University College deserved a better fate.

MR. C. L. SHADWELL'S chapter on Oriel College is a very different piece of work, though he, too, is chary of allusion to the famous modern history of his college. His researches in the Oriel muniments have brought forth abundant fruit, and for the completeness with which he treats of the constitutional history, the buildings and possessions of the college, the life and manners of its members, and the constant disputes about the election of the provost, his contribution will bear comparison with any other in the book. The editor, indeed, should not have permitted the statement to pass that "it was not until 1340 that the scholars of the Lady Devorguilla [at Balliol] were set free from the authority of extraneous Procuratores, and allowed to be governed by a Master of their own choosing," since he had left standing Mr. Poole's remark in his chapter on Balliol that the "extraneous Procuratores" were re-established under the name of "Rectors" after a very few years, while the head (at first called "Principal") was elected by the scholars according to the earliest statutes of Devorguilla herself. Again, Mr. Clark might have corrected from his own edition of Anthony Wood's 'City of Oxford' the assertion that Edward II. "founded the Cistercian house at Oxford"; it was the Carmelite house which claimed Edward as its founder, because he granted it its buildings in fulfilment of a vow made on the field of Bannockburn. The origin of the name "Oriel" is successfully explained, since a hall called "La Oriole" formed "the nucleus of the present college buildings," much as Charterhouse School took its name from the house of the expelled Carthusians. But the strict title of Oriel was "St. Mary's College," and the modern designation does not appear in any formal

document for nearly forty years after the college was founded. It is curious that neither Mr. Shadwell nor Mr. Madan (who writes on Brasenose), careful as they are in matters of detail, thinks it necessary to warn his readers against the fictitious derivation of Oriel from *Aula regalis*, or of Brasenose from an imaginary word meaning a "brew-house." Yet both these etymologies still hold their ground in some quarters, or at least are cited as possible alternatives; and it seems likely that the current spelling of the latter name with an *s* is traceable to the supposed connexion with *brasinium*, a connexion which also very probably gave rise to the annual custom of "Brasenose ales."

An interesting line of inquiry might be followed up with the help of Mr. Clark's volume to illustrate the affiliation of colleges, whether by means of derived statutes or by the personal tie consisting in the fact that many of the first members of a new foundation were taken in a body from an older one. As to the former point, Merton and New College are the two constitutional exemplars, and a table might be made, like that which Dr. Charles Gross has drawn up to show the relations of the statutes of English boroughs, distinguishing the colleges which trace directly or indirectly to one of these originals. In the present collection of narratives it is not often enough explained — perhaps the writers did not always know — how many facts may be taken for granted in dealing with a mediaeval college, and how few are really characteristic of a particular foundation. Yet the objects of founders were by no means regularly identical, and it is the small points of distinction that need bringing out clearly. Very often the working of statutes, as shown by later visitors' injunctions or changes of usage, possibly only indicated by notices in the college registers, furnishes more instruction about the actual character of a foundation than do its statutes themselves. The reader who wishes to understand the college system of the Middle Ages will find, in the volume before us, his best materials in the chapters on Balliol, Oriel, Queen's, New College, Lincoln, and All Souls'.

The other point of interest to which we have referred, the personal link between college and college, is less adequately dealt with. The Provost of Queen's, for instance, has omitted to lay stress upon the fact, noticed by the late Prof. Thorold Rogers, that some of the earliest fellows of his college were fellows of Merton who seem to have formed a standing and irreconcilable minority in their body — as though the founder thought them in the right, and intended to relieve them from a disagreeable position by placing them where their wishes might prevail. On the other hand, the close relation between Magdalen and Corpus and Cardinal College — the future Christ Church — as Bishop Foxe and Cardinal Wolsey were both Magdalen men, is clearly explained. Here the connexion was that of persons imported from the older college to start the new foundation. In other cases, the fact that the founder came from an older college, whose spirit he sought to hand on in his statutes — as in the examples of All Souls' and Magdalen, which alike claim New College as their original — is not

shown to have brought with it any personal tie of so close a kind; though that such was aimed at, at least in Magdalen, may be inferred from the choice of a New College man as its first president, as well as from the proviso in the statutes that a fellow or former fellow of New College was equally eligible with a Magdalen man for the presidentship of that society. Among the newer colleges, we may single out Mr. Blakiston's account of Trinity for the careful way in which he traces a personal tradition of a somewhat different kind, namely, in the way that the college was constantly recruited from the county families of Warwickshire and Oxfordshire. The limitation of college endowments to particular counties was, of course, the rule rather than the exception; but at Trinity we find the Midland "close" scholars attended, as it were, to their college by their wealthier neighbours; for the "commoners" of colleges were until modern times — in many colleges always, and generally in most — not the ordinary unendowed undergraduate whom we know nowadays, but "fellow commoners" or "gentleman commoners," who were received on special terms and enjoyed special privileges.

In most chapters the history of the college buildings properly forms a salient characteristic. Indeed, it is not too much to say that the reader will find here a more minute and accurate account of the successive changes in the structure of many of the colleges, gathered together from scanty and scattered notices, plans, and views, than has ever hitherto appeared in print. It is singular that Mr. H. A. Wilson, in his excellent chapter on Magdalen College, has said probably less about the buildings which form one of the chief glories of Oxford than any of his colleagues has done with respect to buildings of no architectural value, and of little interest except to those who cultivate the *religio loci*. Perhaps he thought that their beauty was too surely graven on the memories of all Oxford men to need more than an antiquarian record of dates; and certainly he was so far right that it is the little changes in the more homely buildings of the university which are apt to pass most completely out of mind. We suspect that no small industry must have been employed to ascertain a number of structural details which we could name, though many of them took place within the academic lifetime of present fellows of the colleges. In dealing with Christ Church Mr. St. John Tyrwhitt errs by the excessive preponderance he gives to the architectural history of the cathedral. This is the more to be regretted since he has injured the value of his contribution as a work of reference by accepting the highly disputable conclusions arrived at by Mr. Park Harrison as to the date of the earlier parts of the cathedral fabric. On the conclusions themselves we express no opinion, but they have not as yet won the approval of more than a small minority of experts; we complain only of their incorporation in a work which, we take it — in spite of many shortcomings — will certainly be appealed to for many years as the standard book on the colleges of Oxford.

Mr. Tyrwhitt is in other respects too credulous. He holds firmly to the legend

of St. Frideswide. "About A.D. 727 an alderman, or *subregulus*, of the name of Didan is discovered ruling in all honour over the populous city of Mercian Oxford." But the earliest record we have calls Didan distinctly "king," and was Oxford at that date Mercian? We prefer to confess with Prof. Bright that "we do not know that the district which was ecclesiastically dependent on Dorchester.....became Mercian before the battle of Bensington in 777." The whole story has every mark of legend about it. Mr. Tyrwhitt proceeds to say that "the munificent kings of Mercia also build inns or halls in the vicinity," and cites Mr. Boase, who has in no way committed himself to any such assertion. "This," is the naive comment, "seems to anticipate even Alfred's imagined foundation of University College; and is therefore [sic] to be adhered to as dogma for the present by all members of the larger House." Passing by the inconsequence of this last remark, we may add that if St. Frideswide's nunnery was established at the date claimed for it, the foundress was, in all probability, the only lady of the name known to history, who was no virgin, but the wife of Ethelward, king of the West Saxons.

It is a pity that the editor did not persuade Mr. Tyrwhitt that these extravagances and pious opinions were out of place in a book like this. We wish also that he had laid down some rule as to the spelling of names which occur repeatedly, like that of Bishop Foxe (or Fox) and Laurence Humphrey (or Humfrey), and the insertion or exclusion of lists of heads of colleges, eminent men, benefactors, &c. We would gladly have spared the catalogue of Jesus College bishops or the statistics of Brasenose rowing in order to make room for a more adequate account of the social history of Christ Church or Brasenose in its palmy days. Statistics of another kind might well have been admitted. It would have been interesting to show how the several colleges stood, judged by the standard of the class-lists soon after their invention. For instance, in the first six lists regularly divided into classes we find that, out of 113 first and second classes given in classics, twenty-eight were won by Christ Church, twenty-one by Brasenose, and sixteen by Oriel; the next colleges in order being Balliol and Corpus, each with only seven. A generation later — taking the years 1835-37 by chance — we notice that the balance has changed, and while Christ Church still heads the list with twenty-one, Balliol now follows with fifteen and Trinity with fourteen, and Oriel and Brasenose take a slightly lower place with eleven each. It would, of course, be folly to take such a test by itself as a fair criterion of the general condition of the colleges; but the figures serve as a striking commentary on Mark Pattison's description of the great time of Brasenose and Oriel at the beginning of the present century, and suggest that the leading men of the "Oxford movement" at Oriel did not, at the first at least, exercise a beneficial effect on the tuition of the college. This again bears out Pattison's account of it when he was an undergraduate, and he took his degree in 1836.

If we have seen reason to complain that the social history of the colleges is not so

regularly illustrated as it might have been, there are several chapters in which it forms a prominent element. This is notably the case with the latter part of the chapters on Balliol, Lincoln, All Souls'—by Mr. C. Oman, and one of the best in the book—Corpus, Trinity, and Worcester. That on St. John's, by Mr. W. H. Hutton, contains a just and sympathetic treatment of the college record in the Laudian period; and Mr. Douglas Maclean in dealing with Pembroke shows alike the spirit of an antiquary and a power to enter with patriotic enthusiasm into the surroundings of the great worthy of the college, Samuel Johnson, and the unusually interesting group of men who were there contemporary, or nearly contemporary, with him.

It is an abrupt change to pass from the scholarly collection of sketches edited by Mr. Clark to the romance which Mrs. de Paravicini would have her readers accept as a record of the 'Early History of Balliol College.' Mrs. de Paravicini cheerfully takes Matthew Paris as a good authority for the time of Alfred, and has no scruple about the evidence of the forged Ingulf. She believes in Alfred's foundation of schools at Oxford and in Grimbold's crypt beneath St. Peter's Church. Indeed, she almost makes us retract what we have said above, in connexion with University College, about the needlessness of exploding exploded myths. To deal seriously with such a production would be to abuse our readers' patience. Yet the book is not absolutely without value, because it contains, besides Mrs. de Paravicini's own effusions, a number of documents from the college muniments, with translations, and a series of transcripts and translations of the sixteenth century register. The use of "record-type" in the case of the earlier documents, much as we dislike it, has something in its favour; but to adopt the same practice with regard to sixteenth century English is an excess of pedantry. Mrs. de Paravicini even prints her quotations from Anthony Wood's 'Colleges' in the same peculiar fashion from the manuscript, with all its contractions, rather than from Gutch's edition. She likes to do so because of its "attractive quaintness." But while she airs herself on her precision in this matter, she quotes Wood's 'City of Oxford' from Peshall's notoriously bad edition, in spite of Mr. Clark's having recently brought out a model text of the book. Extracts from Savage's 'Balliofergus' and Wood make up a good part of Mrs. de Paravicini's volume; they are reprinted without even an attempt at correction or illustration. For the documents the author draws largely on Mr. Riley's report for the Historical Manuscripts Commission, and the translations and transcripts are to a considerable extent the work of others who have helped her. There are still a large number of mistakes in the translations, owing to unfamiliarity with the Latin of the documents, and the reader will do wisely if he pays no attention to the author's comments. To show how little perception she has of the meaning of the documents she prints, we may mention that she strongly contests Anthony Wood's statement about Sir Philip Somerville's statutes of 1340 "much crossing those of" the foundress. Now the first constitution

of the college placed the control of the college in the hands of two "extraneous Masters," one of whom was regularly a Franciscan friar. Somerville erected side by side with this a second authority, consisting of the Chancellor of the University and the Warden of the Benedictine monks of Durham College. A greater revolution, considering the relations of monks and friars in the fourteenth century, it would be impossible to imagine; and it is not surprising that the arrangement was annulled within a quarter of a century.

The Land of the Lamas. By W. W. Rockhill. (Longmans & Co.)

TIBET is situated in the centre of the oldest continent of the globe, it is bordered closely by countries in touch with the latest developments of Western civilization, yet twenty years ago its topography was based upon the laborious but fantastic researches of Chinese priests of the last century, and its general geography was as little known as that of the Antarctic regions. Since 1871, however, the spirit of geographical discovery has been remarkably active, and British and Russian enterprise has led the way in a really marvellous expansion of knowledge. The latest record of travel in this region is that of Mr. Rockhill, late secretary of the United States Legation at Peking, who, though he did not actually traverse much new ground and confined himself to the eastern half of the country, has been enabled by his good knowledge of the Chinese and Tibetan languages to acquire far more exact information than most of his predecessors.

Mr. Rockhill did not travel through Alashan and the Gobi desert, as Huc, Prejevalsky, and others had done, but selected a south-westerly route from Peking, through Hsian-fu and Lanchow-fu. The objective point was, however, the same, being the great frontier mart of Sining and the Koko-Nor lake, along which the northern road to Lhasa runs. His mode of locomotion as far as Lanchow-fu was a cart, innocent of springs or seat and drawn by mules, which he pronounces, however, to be the most rapid and convenient form of travelling in Northern China. Other amenities of the route are the following:—

"The noise in a Chinese inn is deafening, and it never ceases day or night. Each guest yells from his door to the *huo-chi*, or servant, for everything he wants, the *huo-chi* shouts back, the cook bawls out the names of the dishes as they are ready, the cart-drivers wrangle with the *chang-kuei-ti* (innkeeper) and the mules bray, and the pigs, of which there are always a half-dozen about, grunt and squeal, till one in sheer desperation joins in the general hubbub and tries to shout it down."

At Tung-kuan—a point of convergence of routes from Eastern and Western and North-Western China, situated at the right angle formed by the Yellow River where it turns eastward—the party fell in with the Nepalese mission which was returning home from the Chinese capital:—

"It had left Peking about a month before me, but had come by the Honan route. The mission (about forty persons in all) was in no hurry to get home, as the chiefs and even the servants were in receipt of a daily allowance from the Chinese Government so long as they were in

the empire, and were transported, fed, and lodged free of all expense, nor did they have to pay any duties or octroi dues on their goods either when going to Peking or when returning home. All tribute missions to the Court of Peking are treated with the same liberality as was this one, and as the members of such missions can bring to Peking a very large amount of goods to sell, free of all charges, and carry back to the frontier of their own country an equally large quantity under the same favourable conditions, it is no wonder that the right to present tribute to the emperor is considered a valuable privilege, and is eagerly sought after by tribes and peoples living near the Chinese border."

At Sining much time and pains were spent by the author in endeavouring to procure trustworthy men, tents, and appliances for his further wanderings, and in the course of his inquiries he was led to pay a visit to a large lamasery to the north, the chief lama of which happened to be an old Peking friend of his. The description of his sojourn in this remote hospice is curious. Within the heavy gates of the enclosure were several pavilions built in the Chinese style, but with smooth board floors and extremely clean; the copper fire pans and kettles shone like gold, and the lamas were continually flitting about with dusting cloths. Bu Lama, the author's friend, was only a lay brother himself, but he possessed the merit of wealth, and as the most devout lamas met at his house twice a month to read prayers from seven o'clock in the morning—stopping at frequent intervals to partake of buttered tea, and at noon of an Homeric meal of dumplings, boiled mutton, soup, bread, &c.—no one could reproach him for lax exercise of all religious rites and requirements. Mr. Rockhill had actually translated into English some of the Tibetan sacred books (parts of the Kandjur), and this secured for him the great admiration and respect of the lamas. When told of our esoteric Buddhists, the Mahatmas, and of the wonderful doctrines they claimed to have obtained from Tibet, the lamas were immensely amused. They looked upon this new school as rankly heretical, and as almost imposing on our credulity.

An interesting point is raised by Mr. Rockhill in connexion with "wild men," who, he was credibly assured, were to be found in Eastern Tibet. His informant, a Mongol who had accompanied a Chinese trader in quest of rhubarb, described these savages as covered with long hair, standing erect, and making tracks like men. Mr. Rockhill feels certain that the primeval paleolithic savage of Eastern Tibet is really nothing more than a bear; but he acknowledges that intelligent and educated Chinese well acquainted with the appearance and habits of bears believe that primitive savages are to be found in the mountains of Eastern Tibet. Surely, we may remark, such an hypothesis is not very far-fetched or unlikely. The Indian traveller Kishen Singh, and, if we remember aright, Lieut. Kreitner also, testify to the existence of wild men in these parts, and the former describes them and their habits with minuteness. Moreover, Mr. Rockhill himself speaks of a forest fire in the Horpa country having driven a number of hairy wild men, clad in skins and speaking an incomprehensible language, out of the woods.

It is very curious, too, that the habitat of the wild man, whose progenitors may

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have easily relapsed into savagery owing to the exceptional sterility and inaccessibility of Northern Tibet and its adjacent deserts, should be the same as that of the wild camel and wild horse, which there is good reason to believe are the prototypes of the domesticated variety. Possibly the researches of Mr. J. Martin and the Russian travellers, the brothers Grum-Grjimailo, may throw some further light on this interesting question.

The most trying part of the author's journey was yet to come. Like most of his predecessors, Mr. Rockhill wished to reach the sacred capital, Lhasa; but he found that his available funds would not admit of it, the hardships of the route being too great for his slender caravan. Consequently he determined to cross Eastern Tibet by way of the sources of the Yellow River, although he was warned that the passage of the Dre-chu or Upper Yang-tse was a very difficult affair. It certainly must have been far from pleasant, judging from the author's description:—

"The river was about 175 yards wide, swift and deep, and we all felt rather nervous at the idea of having to make our worn-out horses swim this mill-race, and trust ourselves and all our belongings to a fragile boat. The coracle is composed of yak hides stretched over a few bent twigs, is about 5 feet long and 4 feet broad, and shaped like half of a walnut shell. So frail is it that one must be most careful not to put one's foot on the hide, but only on the ribs, for the least direct pressure on the skin makes the seams give way."

However, the party eventually got across safely, and pursued their journey to Ta-chien-lu. This part of the route is practically identical with that of Kishen Singh (A—k). Its purely geographical interest is, therefore, slight; but, on the other hand, the author's notes on the customs, commerce, and politics of the inhabitants are copious and interesting. Polyandry, which is found in this part of Tibet, exists only in the agricultural districts, the explanation tendered by Mr. Rockhill being that the tillable lands are of small extent and all under cultivation, so that the property would not bear subdividing if each son had a wife and family.

"Among the nomads, where existence is not dependent on the produce of the soil, where herds of yak and flocks of sheep and goats are ever increasing and supply all their owner's wants, this necessity of preserving the family property undivided can never have existed. Hence we find polyandry unknown among them: monogamy, and perhaps a very few cases of polygamy, is the rule where they are found."

This opinion is not very dissimilar from that of the late Mr. Colborne Baber, whose experience was that polygamy obtained in the valleys and polyandry in the uplands.

On the enormous proportion of priests to the general population of Tibet Mr. Rockhill says:—

"Chinese writers of authority have stated that for every family in Tibet there were three lamas, and I do not believe that this is an exaggerated estimate. Although the greater part of K'ando is not under their direct rule, they are everywhere the *de facto* masters of the country. In their hands is nearly all the wealth of the land, acquired by trading, donations, money-lending, and bequests. Their landed property is frequently enormous, their serfs and bondsmen swarm."

At Ta-chien-lu Mr. Rockhill, like his predecessor the Indian pundit, received a cordial welcome from the Jesuit fathers, who, under the energetic direction of Monseigneur Biet, carry on their missionary labours amid considerable hardship and danger. Since the "state of reprisals" between France and China in 1884-5 foreign prestige (so Mr. Rockhill states) has fallen lower than at any period since the Anglo-French expedition in 1861:—

"Everywhere in Shen-hsi, Kansu, Ssu-ch'uan, I heard it said that the officials had changed entirely of late in their manners towards foreigners; nearly all of them showed such marked hostility and arrogance that their conduct could be explained only on the supposition that they were acting under orders from Peking. Every foreigner living in the interior of China is kept under constant surveillance; his daily doings are fully reported to the local officials, his every act pried into, his servants suborned or maltreated, and no occasion is ever lost to snub or humiliate him publicly. In some parts of Ssu-ch'uan the missionaries have been in the last year or two constantly and maliciously tormented by the officials, and more than one whiteheaded old father told me that there had been more real liberty for them in the old days before the 'opening' of the country than in the last few years, and I can readily believe it."

This is strongly expressed; but the recent riots in China certainly tend most unpleasantly to corroborate the author's views, which on most matters, indeed, are characterized by careful research and local experience which possess an inherent authority. We cannot omit, however, to note in conclusion that he is rather unfair towards the Indian Government for their supposed neglect of their native explorers. After complaining that his predecessor Kishen Singh's work has been "carefully pigeon-holed," Mr. Rockhill continues:—

"If any British explorer had done one-third of what Nain Singh, lama Urjyen jyats'o, Sarat Chandra Das, or Kishen Singh (*alias* A—k) accomplished, medals and decorations, lucrative offices and professional promotion, freedom of cities and every form of lionizing would have been his; as for those native explorers, a small pecuniary reward and obscurity are all to which they can look forward."

No doubt valuable reports are too often pigeon-holed by the India Office, and the habit of doing so is most short-sighted; but the charge is singularly out of place in the instances quoted, for Nain Singh was created a C.I.E., and received a grant of land in fee simple besides the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society, while his cousin was rewarded with a grant of a *jaghir* of land from Government, the title of Rai Bahadur, a grant of money from the Royal Geographical Society, a gold medal from the Paris society, and one awarded by the Venice Geographical Congress. Moreover the achievements of both have been recorded in innumerable journals and periodicals, so it cannot fairly be alleged that either Government or science has been grudging in acknowledging their remarkable services.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Peter Ibbetson. With an Introduction by his Cousin, Lady ***** ("Madge Plunket"). Edited and illustrated by George du Maurier. 2 vols. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

A New Saint's Tragedy. By Thomas A. Pinkerton. 2 vols. (Sonnenschein & Co.)

The Gambler's Secret. By Percy Fendall. 2 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

A Widower Indeed. By Rhoda Broughton and Elizabeth Bisland. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

According to St. John. By Amélie Rives. (Heinemann.)

The Poet's Audience; and Delilah. By Clara Savile Clarke. (Cassell & Co.)

Dame Care. By Hermann Sudermann. Translated from the German by Bertha Overbeck. (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.)

MR. DU MAURIER has written a vague, fanciful, incoherent, but unmistakably delightful story, which seems to combine a great deal of actual reminiscence from the days of his childhood and early youth with a tragic fantasy. The hero is tried for murder, and, of course, convicted and sentenced to death. The sentence is commuted to twenty-five years' penal servitude; and, under the magic wand of poetry and imagination, these years become the happiest of his life, and their record is almost the brightest part of Mr. du Maurier's book. Even if the story is to be considered merely as an allegory, the allegory is far better reading than most realistic fiction. At any rate, Mr. du Maurier deserves the gratitude of all who come across his book, both for the pleasant and tender fancies in which it abounds and for its four score dainty sketches.

Mr. Pinkerton has chosen a somewhat large and loose-fitting title for his story, which only records the abandonment of a large fortune by a high-minded young woman. The acquisition of the fortune depended upon her marrying a cousin, and she gave him up at the critical moment because she discovered that he was entangled with another woman. Whether, having gone so far as she did, she ought to have thrown him over and ruined her family for such a cause, or whether it would have been more saintly and sensible to marry, may appear to some people an open question. It is a "difficult case" which Mr. Pinkerton's readers may like to settle for themselves under his entertaining guidance. 'A New Saint's Tragedy' is quite readable, and the characters, whether comic or serious, are distinctly drawn.

Unless it be to prove that the lives of men and women of fashion can be as vulgar as those of the bagman, and as sordid and vicious as those of the most submerged East-ender, it is difficult to see what object Mr. Fendall can have had in the composition of 'The Gambler's Secret.' There is no secret so far as the reader is concerned, as the author reveals it at the outset. As for the characters, he has lavished all his art—such as it is—on a fast widow, who does not over-estimate her accomplishments when she declares that she can play anything, "from the most washed-out young *ingénue* down to Jezebel herself." Mrs. Dalrymple, however,

is not attractively, but only repellently wicked, and the two representatives of virtue are both colourless and commonplace personages. The heroine has a sister who is described as a "sparkling spinster," a phrase wholly typical of the distinction of Mr. Fendall's style. It is at least a small mercy that the story is in two volumes, and not three.

The fact that Miss Broughton's first essay in collaboration bears the imprint of an American house affords pretty strong presumptive evidence that Miss (or Mrs.?) Bisland is responsible for the part played in the story by Miss Georgia Wrenn, whose conversation bristles with the choicest specimens of American neologism. If this surmise be correct, we cordially congratulate Miss Bisland on having done her best to infuse some life and animation into what is, in the main, a story dull and dreary enough to serve as a modern Christmas number. But with such a hero it would take a good many Georgia Wrenns to redeem the tedium of "A Widower Indeed." So far as one can see, the Rev. Edward Lygon is sincerely meant to appeal to the sympathies of the reader. But it will strain the capacity of the most generous reader to the utmost to feel his heart warm towards this most doddering of dons, this abject, fretful, helpless apology for humanity, whose self-created woes are spread out over nearly three hundred pages. Here and there matters are mended by a clever bit of writing; but the mood of doleful dumps soon regains the upper hand. "A Widower Indeed" is neither amusing nor interesting, and as such must be reckoned a failure except as an antidote to high spirits.

According to St. John's shows a good deal more self-restraint than "The Quick and the Dead," the first work of the author's that attracted notice. It is, however, by no means deficient in that sort of vigour which exhibits itself in reckless epithets and a display of an uncontrollable passion consisting of love with a dash of religion in it. The author really has some insight into women's character, and she can also describe a good many things with feminine rapidity and minuteness of observation. Like a true American novelist she never fails to introduce a negro, and she has the distinction of being able to make her negroes not unbearable. Her style has considerably diminished in absurdity, and the result on the whole is that she is less amusing as she approaches nearer to mediocrity.

The infatuation of a girl, who is represented as being both pure and beautiful, for a long-haired literary charlatan, who is at once a cad and a liar, is not an agreeable theme in any case, and it cannot be said that the author of "The Poet's Audience" has succeeded in mending matters by her treatment of it. The surroundings are sordid, and the whole atmosphere unhealthy. In "Delilah" the roles are inverted, and the principal character—a young and promising politician—is magnetized by a vicious woman who eventually murders his wife. Both of these repulsive stories are fluently written, and will doubtless be appreciated by misanthropic readers.

Hermann Sudermann's "Frau Sorge" was well worth translation, and in spite of occasional angularities it has been Englished by

Miss Overbeck so faithfully as to preserve unimpaired the simple pathos of the original. There is a freshness and romance about this tale of a German moorland which lifts it far above the ordinary level in the manner of its narrative, while the principal characters reveal themselves without any intervention on the part of the author in the way of cataloguing their qualities or any otiose description. The hero in particular—who reminds one at times of Daudet's Jack—is a finely conceived creation, whose lonely struggles after his ideal inspire the reader with a truly affectionate interest. As Herr Sudermann's name is associated with other works of a pessimistic and repellent character, it is only fair to say that "Dame Care," though not without painful episodes, is essentially a pure as well as a beautiful story.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

Great-Grandmamma and Elsie. By Georgina M. Syng. (Cassell & Co.)

Waiting and Serving. By Maude M. Butler. (Nelson & Sons.)

Sweet William. By Marguerite Bouvet. (Same publishers.)

Changed Lots. By Frances Armstrong. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

The Young Governess. By the Author of "Gerty and May." (Same publishers.)

Fay Arlington. By Anne Beale. (Same publishers.)

Mischief-Makers; or, the Story of Zipporah.

By Mrs. M. E. Bewsher. (Same publishers.)

Won at Last. By Agnes Giberne. (Shaw & Co.)

Little Queenie. By Emma Marshall. (Same publishers.)

The Countess Maud. By Emily S. Holt. (Same publishers.)

The Abbot's Bridge. By Frances M. Pearn. (National Society.)

Kinsfolk and Others. By the Author of "The Atelier du Lys." (Same publishers.)

Fifty Pounds. By C. R. Coleridge. (Same publishers.)

Fifty-two Further Stories for Girls. Edited by Alfred H. Miles. (Hutchinson & Co.)

The Family Difficulty. By Sarah Doudney. (Same publishers.)

The Love Dream of Gatty Fenn. (Same author and publishers.)

Who Shall Serve? By Annie S. Swan. (Olivier, Anderson & Ferrier.)

The Burning of Rome: a Story of Nero's Days. By the Rev. A. J. Church. (Seeley & Co.)

The Story of the Iliad. (Same author and publishers.)

The Story of the Odyssey. (Same author and publishers.)

Roger Ingleton, Minor. By Talbot Baines Reed. (Sampson Low & Co.)

The Crystal Hunters. By G. Manville Fenn. (Partridge & Co.)

Not Wanted; or, the Wreck of the Providence.

By Eliza F. Pollard. (Same publishers.)

Paul Blake. By Alfred Elwes. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

The Constable's Tower. By Charlotte M. Yonge. (National Society.)

PRETTY pictures are, unhappily, not always to be found in children's books. "Great-Grandmamma and Elsie" is, therefore, doubly welcome, for stories and illustrations are alike attractive. Elsie is, indeed, a little too sad, but "Great-Grandmamma" is a charming sketch of child-life. Little Lady Betty divides the honours with her beautiful ancestress, whose portrait, after Sir Thomas Lawrence, forms the frontispiece of the book. The smaller illustrations are by Mr. Gordon Browne.

"Waiting and Serving" is a pathetic little sketch of child-life. Milton's noble line is

Charlie Essingham's comfort in a sore strait:—

"Will you read me the card over the mantelpiece, please? Say *lie* where it says *stand*. It doesn't seem to mean me, because I can't stand. I wish it said *lie*. I've been thinking about it all day." Filoselle went over to the mantelpiece, and read very slowly and distinctly, with quite a pause between each word, 'They—also—serve—who—only—*lie*—and—wait.'

Charlie and his brothers and sisters—a goodly company—are the victims of India, that cruel country which severs parents and children. The little Essinghams fare better than many children in such a case, yet they have many adventures and trials, which make up the book.—In "Sweet William; or, the Castle of Mount St. Michael," a tale of early times in Normandy, we have a charming version of the story of the children changed at nurse—a good old theme, capable of infinite variety of treatment.

"Changed Lots" is a good, though somewhat improbable story. It sounds decidedly absurd, but the tale is so well told that the book is pleasant to read, and even exciting.—It is impossible to say so much for "The Young Governess," a sentimental account of a deformed but noble-hearted heroine, who disguises herself and goes out as a governess. She is neglected, insulted, and cruelly treated, but she manages to survive, and to marry a baronet, young, rich, and handsome. The book is stilted and unnatural in tone, and is not free from vulgarity; it has, however, the merit of being short, while "Fay Arlington," a confused and confusing chronicle of family troubles, is of portentous length, is curiously rambling and incoherent, and abounds in broken English.

It would take no ordinary powers to succeed in writing "A Tale of the Times of Herod the Great," and it is no reproach to Mrs. Bewsher to say that her "Mischief-Makers; or, the Story of Zipporah," is not a work of great merit. There is little life in the figures, which seem to us to be no better than puppets, by whose aid a peep-show of that far-off age is presented to us. Mrs. Bewsher's Cleopatra is certainly original. The great queen befriends Zipporah, helps her to flee from the pursuit of Antony, and thus holds forth:—

"But why confess my shame? Know only that a princess descended from the illustrious race of the Ptolemies is not made to love a gross, brutal, and soulless soldier....In vain I give myself up to continual dissipation; of what use is it to change amusements each moment, when nothing can cure the wounds of the heart? Slave to the caprices of the triumvir, I am alternately goddess, queen, bacchante. I hunt with him, I follow him to the camp; but the soul of Cleopatra is too elevated to debase itself without being shocked. Under each disguise, I feel the profound humiliation of being obliged to pay court to him, as the conqueror of my country; yes, I must flatter him whom I detest and despise as a man. Do you think I have sorrows enough? But I see that you are impatient, your eyes are fixed on the secret door. Antony was very much surprised to find that there are subterranean passages under this palace communicating with all the theatres; but he does not suspect that a veritable labyrinth exists in these walls; and that is why I allow him to occupy it. Follow me."

This is really very funny.

In "Won at Last," a tale of our own days, Miss Giberne displays considerable powers. The plot is not a new one, but that does not matter at all—it is the treatment which is so admirable. There is a fortune at stake, and there is plotting and counter-plotting; but the interest of the book is not in the money, it lies in the vivid comprehension and sympathetic presentation of "every-day anxieties—just such as hundreds of people are constantly going through." We can understand Miss Giberne's book being a help to many.—Mrs. Marshall's "Little Queenie" is a pretty story; but we could wish that the heroine had not adopted the worn-out expedient of getting into a boat which drifts out to sea. Queenie's stepmother, who disguises herself as a governess in order to win the affection of the rebellious child, is quite in the fashion.

Miss Holt has had much experience in the

writing of historical novels ; she is exceedingly painstaking and accurate ; and her new book 'The Countess Maud,' if carefully studied, would enlighten one greatly as to the ways of the fourteenth century, but looked upon as a work of art, written "to please," it is scarcely successful. The long lists of ladies' garments pall upon one, and it becomes tiresome to read much of such stuff as this :—

"Prithee, Nell, be not thus noyous and troublesome ! See, thou hast turned my basket upsdown. Would thou couldst be less overthwart and foot-lot !"

'The Abbot's Bridge,' by Miss Peard, also a tale of the fourteenth century, is much less learned and much more readable. We do not mean that Miss Peard is ignorant—on the contrary, she seems to us thoroughly to grasp the spirit of the age of which she writes ; but she does not overload her pages with masses of detail, her story is full of human interest, her people are real men and women, and are moved by passions and feelings like to our own. The scene is laid in the Eastern Counties, and the Abbot's Bridge leads to the great town of St. Edmund's Bury. Hal Wrangham, the hero, is a sturdy and upright lad, who deserves to win in the battle with his hard and cruel stepmother. The opening scene, in which the wicked Bess would urge beyond their strength Hal and his brave dogs, is really very fine.—The author of 'The Atelier du Lys' has long since won a reputation ; she has never written a dull book, and 'Kinsfolk and Others' is quite one of her best. The scene is laid in the Lake country, where stern old Mrs. Garth lived and died. The dour North-countrywoman is a fine study, as is her granddaughter Olive, who, indeed, is the heroine of the book.—Miss Coleridge's 'Fifty Pounds' is of a lower order of merit ; it is a harmless, but not specially interesting story of village loves and hates, and money troubles.

The editor of 'Fifty-two Further Stories for Girls' seems anxious lest girls should not receive their proper share "in the annual output of the printing-press." We should like to reassure him ; we are convinced that there need be no cause for anxiety. Mr. Miles's thick volume contains tales of all sorts; none of them is exactly bad, a few are good, but the most are indifferent. Perhaps one of the best is the last in the book, a curious story from the Russian, entitled 'The Bride of the Wind.'

While Miss Doudney wields her pen girls will certainly not be unprovided. 'The Family Difficulty' and 'The Love Dream of Gatty Fenning' are books for girls and about girls. In each the heroine is misunderstood in her youth, in each the trouble passes. There is a singular charm about the setting of Gatty Fenning, who "was born in the Meon country, under the shadow of the steep chalk downs, where the 'Men of the Meon' had lived their independent life, and worshipped their idols, twelve hundred years ago."

In 'Who Shall Serve ?' a Story for the Times,' Miss Annie Swan deals with a subject of the highest importance—the labour question. Her story opens on the eve of a great strike in a shipbuilding yard. With extraordinary insight and sympathy she approaches the matter now from the side of the masters, now from that of the men ; she weaves more than one love-story in with the tangle of the fight, and the whole is a picture of life.

'The Burning of Rome' is probably the best of the many excellent tales that Mr. Church has produced. The hero and heroine are the Pudens and Claudia whose marriage seemed to Martial as happily conceived as the mixture of wine with honey. But the historical scenes, which follow one another in swift succession, are of such interest that the reader's attention is concentrated rather on them than on the actors of the drama. In the opening chapter we are introduced to Nero, his second wife Poppea, and his

counsellor Tigellinus, and a vivid picture is given of the luxurious Roman Court. Then follow the burning of Rome and the consequent persecution of the Christians. Very touching is the account of the steadfastness and piety of the little band of converts who hold their services in the catacombs. Another thread of interest which runs through the story is the plot to assassinate Nero, and its failure on several occasions, owing to the timidity or vacillation of one or other of the conspirators. The death of Poppea, the repeal of the edict against the Christians, and the marriage of Pudens and Claudia form an agreeable *denouement*. When we add that among the minor historical persons introduced are Seneca, Piso, Lucan, and Flavus Subrius, the prefect of the Praetorians, Mr. Church's admirers will know that he has once more happily combined learning with imagination.

Mr. Church has also published an expansion of the well-known 'Stories from Homer' with which he began his series of Christmas books some fifteen years ago. 'The Story of the Odyssey' is a mixture of close paraphrase and translation of the whole *Odyssey*, while 'The Story of the Iliad' is naturally more abridged from the original epic. Mr. Church's style is as good as ever, and requires no further praise. The illustrations, as in the earlier book, are copies of Flaxman's designs printed in imitation of red vase-paintings.

Mr. Reed has written a stirring story of a boy's efforts to find his lost brother.—The indefatigable Mr. George Manville Fenn has turned historian of a boys' expedition in the higher Alps. The illustrations are as thrilling as the letterpress, and the feats of climbing are enough to make one feel giddy to read of.

'Not Wanted' is a tale of adventure, with more of the minor key in it than there would be in a man's story for boys. But it is well told, and the amnesia, happily overcome, of the hero Lewis Harcourt or Guy Leighton is a distinctive feature.

Mr. Alfred Elwes breaks new ground in describing the adventures of a boy in the interior of Corsica. As the author remarks,—

"It may seem strange that a fertile island situated in the midst of a sea which was once the chief seat of navigation, and is now one of the great highways of the civilised world, an island too which is but a few hours' journey from the luxuries of a refined life, should still remain in the condition in which it is described in these pages."

'The Constable's Tower' is a very fair specimen of an historical tale, dealing with the days of Hubert de Burgh and the siege of Dover Castle. The author explains she has taken a liberty in introducing a daughter of Hubert's at that date, but the demoiselle, Mayette by name, is very necessary to the story.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A Mad Tour; or, a Journey undertaken in an Insane Moment through Central Europe on Foot (Bentley), is the full title of a rather bulky volume by Mrs. Riddell. It seems to be intended to gratify the taste for humorous records of unconventional journeys—journeys in which there are no disillusionments, because nobody sets out with any grand expectations, and in which enthusiasms of all sorts are as much out of place as would be the idea of wasting such an excellent opportunity of writing a book. Mrs. Riddell has drawn to perfection a "mad tour," which was evidently doomed beforehand to be a failure. At any rate, this trip through a part of the Black Forest, and on to Constance, is described as a failure from beginning to end. There is scarcely a page in which some indication of discomfort and disappointment does not make its appearance, and though much of this may be due to the particular vein out of which the author has chosen to extract her fun for the reader's amusement, it has in the aggregate a somewhat depressing effect. Mrs. Riddell is

always worth reading, and there are many picturesque and entertaining passages in the volume before us. But the title must be taken in full seriousness, and there is no more to be said.

MR. HAMILIN GARLAND'S *Main-Travelled Roads: Mississippi-Valley Stories* (Fisher Unwin) have the stamp of truthfulness and nature upon them, and to all appearance they are drawn pretty faithfully from the life. They depend almost entirely upon their strong human interest, and their themes are very varied ; but, as the author admits, "the poor and the weary" predominate in his elaborate sketches of life in the Western States. They tell of grinding toil and privation, rarely relieved by gleams of prosperity or the mere joy of living ; but there is no reason to doubt that they are in all essential points genuinely characteristic of the existence which they illustrate.

Hans Christian Andersen's Correspondence, edited by Mr. Frederick Crawford (Dean & Son), contains a selection from the three bulky volumes forming the Danish edition of the great writer's correspondence. Nearly half the letters were written to the late Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar, and (at all events as here translated) are somewhat stilted in style and unduly adulatory in spirit. There are, however, some letters to and from Charles Dickens which are interesting as showing the real friendship which existed between the two men. A brief sketch of Andersen's life, condensed from his autobiography, is prefixed to the volume. The book is so slight that blunders such as spelling the name of the editor of the *Literary Gazette* "Jordan" should have been avoided.

MR. FISHER UNWIN publishes a pretty volume of his "Cameo Series," *Concerning Cats*, a feline anthology, the poems being "selected by Graham R. Tomson and illustrated by Arthur Tomson. We regret that the best poem upon a cat, that by Joachim du Bellay, though named in the preface, is wholly omitted from the book. Calverley's 'Sad Memories' is given, and some excellent poems by Baudelaire. The French poems, though quoted from well-known books, have not been carefully read for the press. In the La Fontaine, for example, a line begins "Ce fut lui," which should begin *Ce lui fut* ; and "this cask" not having the same meaning as "this was for him," the result is nonsense.

THAT indefatigable traveller and writer Dr. Gordon Stables has not grown weary of his caravan, and his style is as cheerful as ever. His new book, *Leaves from the Log of a Gentleman Gipsy* (Jarrod & Sons), contains an account of his recent wanderings, and shows him everywhere enjoying himself thoroughly, making friends with everybody, and writing to the local papers. Since the "Wanderer" was first put upon the road various improvements seem to have been made in the arrangements for camping and travelling, and the author is now planning "the formation of a Gentleman-Gipsy Club, to tour and camp in the loveliest parts of our own lovely land." This undoubtedly proves his enthusiasm, but when one contemplates the possibility of arriving at one of these lovely spots and finding it occupied by a train of caravans with their attendant tricycles, one cannot honestly wish success to the scheme.

It is hard to imagine that anybody will read with pleasure the volume of little bits of stories which the industrious Mr. Frank R. Stockton, with the help of ten other writers, has put together and issued under the title of *Eleven Possible Cases* (Cassell). Mr. Stockton's is, perhaps, the best, because he has frankly treated the thing as a joke, and written a few pages of sheer absurdity. But none of the writers appears to have tried to do his best, and the public is, at all events, sharp enough to be of opinion that the best is not too good for it.

MR. TALFOURD ELY's *Olympus* (Grevel & Co.) is a manual of Greek and Roman mythology,

founded on a similar work in German by Dr. H. Dutschke. It deals in the main with the so-called *Di Majores*, but some space is devoted to lesser deities, such as Castor and Pollux, Hercules and Aesculapius. It is a book of the same kind as, though much more comprehensive and less elaborate in detail than, Mr. Dyer's 'Studies of the Gods,' which we lately reviewed; that is to say, Mr. Ely is chiefly concerned in explaining how each deity combined in one person various local cults, and was thus worshipped under various and often opposite aspects. The work is done with adequate learning, and the illustrations are suitable, though the woodcuts are not of the best. The chapters on the Roman deities are written more clearly and crisply than those on the Greek; but some difference in the treatment was inevitable. The book is really useful, and may be warmly recommended to the *virginibus puerisque* for whom it is designed.

The saying of the Paris magistrate, which was revived after forty years, and put into the mouth of Sir William Harcourt, or quoted by him, "We are all Socialists now," is the motto of a volume by M. J. de Wyewa, *Le Mouvement Socialiste en Europe*, published by MM. Perrin & Co., of Paris. It is a brilliant description of all the Socialist leaders of Europe, including Mr. William Morris, and contains, incidentally, an amusing sketch of Mr. Herbert Spencer.

The reprints on our table are very numerous. A pretty reprint of Sterne's *Sentimental Journey* in the "Aldine Series" does credit to the taste of Messrs. Pickering & Chatto.—Messrs. Bell have added to their "Standard Library" a convenient reissue, in one volume, of *Count Grammont's Memoirs* and *The Boscobel Tracts*.—The "Globe Shakespeare" has found a formidable rival in the *Oxford Shakespeare*, edited by Mr. Craig, and published at the Clarendon Press, which appears in two editions, one of them on India paper. The margins are a little larger, and although the type is much the same size the lines are not set so close; the number of pages is 1264 against 1075; but the cheap edition is not so well worked as the three-and-sixpenny "Globe," and the type shows through. Mr. Craig is not quite so stiffly conservative in his text as the "Globe" editors, and he has not hesitated on occasions to adopt a sound emendation. For instance, in "Antony and Cleopatra," IV. xiii., he has introduced Staunton's "varying star o' the world," for "varying shore o' the world," which the "Globe" retains. His edition on India paper is a beautiful book. Still, we do not like to see an old friend so very closely copied.—A charming little edition of *Tennyson's Poetical Works* (twelve volumes in a case) has been brought out by Messrs. Macmillan, and ought to be one of the most popular of presents this Christmas. The same firm send us a most welcome reprint of *Lowell's Poetical Works* in one volume, with an interesting introduction by Judge Hughes.

Mr. FROWDE continues to devote his great ingenuity, taste, and knowledge of the trade to the manufacture of books. His *Oxford Miniature Bible*, on India paper (3³/₄ by 2¹/₂ by 5 in.), is certainly a triumph of skill. The very small yet clear type shows up beautifully on the thin but excellent paper. He also sends two admirable specimens of craftsmanship—two copies of the Revised Version, one of them in ruby and the other in minion, each of them on India paper, each provided with an indexed atlas, and each of them bound in limp morocco. They deserve warm praise, especially the latter, a beautiful thin octavo that will be an ornament to any library. They are issued by the two universities jointly.

THREE excellent volumes of selections, of Messrs. Macmillan's publishing, are before us—*Tennyson for the Young*, a selection made by Canon Ainger with his usual taste and fine critical faculty (but we should have omitted

'In the Children's Hospital'); *Poems of Shelley*, selected by Mr. Stopford Brooke, who has prefixed a careful, if somewhat artificial introduction; and a new edition of Matthew Arnold's *Poems of Wordsworth*.

MR. PRATT, of Sudbury, has sent us *Fulcher's Ladies' Memorandum Book*, which deservedly maintains its repute as a representative of the kind of pocket-book our grandmothers liked.—*Hazell's Annual for 1892* (Hazell, Watson & Viney), on the other hand, is an excellent representative of the modern passion for information on every conceivable subject. The editor shows great industry, and, as he has corrected the mistakes we mentioned last year, we feel bound to find fresh ones. If Miss A. B. Edwards deserves half a column, why is Miss Betham-Edwards ignored? The Republican party in Spain has existed more than "some eighteen to twenty years." Tunis is again dismissed in three lines; surely it is of more importance than Luderitzland. "O'Gorman" (p. 174) is a misprint for O'Gorman, "Milaflorres" for Miraflores, and "Norddeutsche" for Norddeutsche; but as a rule the printing is wonderfully accurate. We are sorry to see the cover is still disfigured by an advertisement.—Messrs. Bemrose & Sons have forwarded a neat little *Shakespearean Daily Calendar*.

We have on our table *Dally*, by Maria L. Pool (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.),—*Zadoc Pine, and other Stories*, by H. C. Bunner (Gay & Bird),—*The Devil's Acres* (The Leadenhall Press),—*A Pinch of Experience*, by L. B. Walford (Methuen),—*Juggernaut*, by G. C. Eggleston and D. Marbourg (Low),—*Ryle's Open Gate*, by S. T. Moore (Boston, U.S., Heath),—*Seven Dreamers*, by Annie T. Slosson (Osgood, McIlvaine & Co.),—*Between the Lines*, by W. H. Pollock and A. Galt (Methuen),—and *Pour l'Honneur!* by A. Gennevraye (Paris, Lévy). Among New Editions we have *Aunt Charlotte's Stories of English History for the Little Ones*, by C. M. Yonge (Marcus Ward),—*Essays and other Writings of Henry Thoreau*, edited by W. H. Dircks (Scott),—*The Aztec Treasure House*, by T. A. Janvier (Low),—*A Treatise on Elementary Dynamics*, by S. L. Loney (Cambridge, University Press),—and *The Wigwam and the Warpath*, by A. R. Hope (Blackie). Also the following Pamphlets: *Greek and other Studies at Cambridge*, by E. C. Clark (Cambridge, Macmillan & Bowes),—*On the Ancient Language of the Natives of Tenerife*, by John, Marques of Bute, K.T. (Masters),—*La Mission de Jeanne d'Arc*, by P. Marin (Genoa, Ciminago),—*Alma Murray: Portrait as Beatrice Cenci*, with Critical Notice, containing four Letters from Robert Browning (E. Mathews),—*Robert Browning and the Drama*, by W. Fairfax (Reeves & Turner),—*Natural Religion in India*, by Sir A. Lyall, K.C.B. (Cambridge, University Press),—*The Way out of the Wood*, by Kuklos (Wertheimer & Co.),—*King Charles the Second and the Cogan of Coaxdon Manor, a Missing Chapter in the Boscobel Tracts*, edited by a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (Stock),—and *Imperial Federation of Great Britain and her Colonial Possessions*, by Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart. (Street & Co.).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Ellicott's (C. J.) *Christus Compromator*, or the Testimony of Christ to the Old Testament, 12mo. 2/ cl. Fox's (A.) *The Judges and Kings of Israel for the Young*, 2/ cl. Jack's (T. G.) *The Casting of Satan into the Earth*, 5/ cl. Latter's (T.) *The Power of Conscience*, 8vo. 7/6 cl. Michie's (A.) *Missionaries in China*, 8vo. 3/6 cl. Vaughan's (C. J.) *The Prayers of Jesus Christ*, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

Law.

Evans's (W.) *The Law relating to the Remuneration of Commission Agents*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Fine Art.

Lloyd's (W. W.) P. and O. *Pencillings*, oblong folio, 21/ net. Perrot (G.) and Chipiez's (C.) *History of Art in Phrygia, Lydia, Caria, and Lycia*, royal 8vo. 15/ cl.

Poetry and the Drama.
Political Verse, ed. by G. Saintsbury, 16mo. 3/6 half-pchmt. Tomson's (G. H.) *A Summer Night*, and other Poems, 3/6 cl. Wicksteed's (F. H.) *Four Lectures on Henrik Ibsen*, 2/6 cl.

History and Biography.

Boldero (H. S.) *Lieutenant R.N.*, *Memories of a Young Heart of Oak*, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl. Corbally's (J. H.) *Forty-five Years of Sport*, edited by A. T. Fisher, 8vo. 16/ cl. Cummings's (C. F. Gordon) *Two Happy Years in Ceylon*, 30/ cl. Forster's (H. O. Arnold) *This World of Ours*, an Introduction to the Study of Geography, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Gessi's (R.) *Seven Years in the Sudan*, 8vo. 15/ cl. Stoddard's (C. A.) *Across Russia from the Baltic to the Danube*, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Geography and Travel.

Arnold's (Sir E.) *Japonica*, with Illustrations by R. Blum, 8vo. 15/ cl. Corbally's (J. H.) *Forty-five Years of Sport*, edited by A. T. Fisher, 8vo. 16/ cl. Cummings's (C. F. Gordon) *Two Happy Years in Ceylon*, 30/ cl. Forster's (H. O. Arnold) *This World of Ours*, an Introduction to the Study of Geography, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Gessi's (R.) *Seven Years in the Sudan*, 8vo. 15/ cl. Stoddard's (C. A.) *Across Russia from the Baltic to the Danube*, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Philology.

French and English Passages for Unseen Translation and Composition, Middle Course, edited by E. Pellissier, 3/6 cl. Huxley's (L.) *Elementary Latin Course*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Lounsbury's (T. R.) *Studies in Chaucer*, 3 vols. 8vo. 42/ cl. Murray's (J. H.) *A Companion Dictionary of the English Language*, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

General Literature.

Cardella's (G.) *A King's Daughter*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl. Carmichael's (J.) *Hospital Children*, Sketches of Life and Character, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Collodi's (C.) *Story of a Puppet, or the Adventures of Pinocchio*, trans. by M. A. Murray, 12mo. 2/6 cl. Davis's (R. H.) *Stories for Boys*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Dean's *Fairy Book*, edited by F. G. Green, 12mo. 5/ cl. Ford's (Mrs. G.) *Master Rex*, royal 18mo. 3/6 cl. Francillon's (R. E.) *Gods and Heroes, or the Kingdom of Jupiter*, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl. Gosse's (E.) *Gossip in a Library*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl. Graham's (P. A.) *Nature in Books*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl. Hoffmann's (Prof.) *Home Gymnastics for Young and Old*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Hutchinson's (H. G.) *Mrs. Batter's Pedigree*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Kennan's (G.) *Siberia and the Exile System*, 2 vols. 32/ cl. Larder's (A.) *A Sinner's Sentence*, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl. Morley's (C.) *Peter, a Cat o' One Tail*, his Life and Adventures, illustrated, royal 8vo. 3/6 cl. Mozley's (A.) *Essays from 'Blackwood'*, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl. Newbiggings's (T.) *Lancashire Characters and Places*, 2/6 cl. Peter Ibbetson, with an Introduction by his Cousin, Lady *** (Madge Plunkett), 2 vols. 8vo. 21/ cl. Pinkerton's (T. A.) *A New Saint's Tragedy*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl. Scott's (Sir W.) *Essays on Chivalry and Romance*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl. Stockpole's (W. H.) *The Three Boats*, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl. Stock's (Lady G.) *A Wasted Life and Marr'd*, 3 vols. 31/6 cl. Tarot (The) of the Bohemians, *Absolute Key to the Occult Sciences*, by Papus, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl. Walford's (L. B.) *The Mischief of Monica*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bernardini à Piconio *Expositio Epistole ad Romanos*, ed. per P. M. Hetszauer, 9m. 60. Feine (P.): *E. Vorkanonische Ueberlieferung d. Lukas*, 4m. Issei (E.): *Die Lehre vom Reiche Gottes im Neuen Testamente*, 3m. 50. Mandel (T. H.): *Die Vorgeschichte der öff. Wirksamkeit Jesu*, 7m. 50. Schmidt (H.): *Zur Christologie*, 4m. Schmoller (O.): *Die Lehre vom Reiche Gottes in den Schriften d. Neuen Testaments*, 3m. 50. Verner (M.): *Du Prétendu Polythéisme des Hébreux*, 7fr. 50.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Jullien (A.): *Un Vieil Hôtel du Marais*, 10fr. Mantz (P.): *Antoine Watteau*, 40fr. Neuville (La) de Colette, *Illustrations par E. Bayard*, 15fr.

Music.

Jullien (A.): *Musiciens d'Aujourd'hui*, 5fr.

History and Biography.

Brosch (M.): *Geschichte v. England*, Vol. 7, 10m. Dierauer (J.): *Geschichte der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft*, Vol. 2, 9m. Hegel (K.): *Städte u. Gilden der Germanischer Völker im Mittelalter*, 2 vols. 20m. Martin (E.): *L'Université de Pont à Mousson (1572-1768)*, 10fr. Phillipson (M.): *Histoire du Règne de Marie Stuart*, Vol. 2, 6fr. Springer (A.): *Aus meinem Leben*, 6m.

Geography and Travel.

Cuinet (V.): *La Turquie d'Asie*, Part 3, 4fr. Frey (C.): *Pirates et Rebelles au Tonkin*, 3fr. 50. Hahn (C.): *Aus dem Kaukasus, Reisen u. Studien*, 6m. Huber (C.): *Journal d'un Voyage en Arabie*, 30fr.

Philology.

Benfey (T.): *Kleinere Schriften*, hrsg. v. A. Bezzemberger, Vol. 2, Parts 3 and 4, 20m. Harlez (C. de): *Textes Taoïstes*, 20fr. Heinzl (R.): *Die Französischen Gralromane*, 10m. Maspero (G.): *Fragments de la Version Thébaïne de l'Ancien Testament*, 20fr. Schwartz (B.): *Scholia in Euripides*, Vol. 2, 9m.

Science.

Encyclopédie Chimique, Vols 9 and 10, 33fr.
Richard (G.): Les Nouveaux Moteurs à Gaz et à Pétrole, 75fr.
Bond (L. Le): Les Travaux Publics de l'Amérique du Nord, Part 1, 10fr.

General Literature.

Frommel (G.): Esquisses Contemporaines, 3fr. 50.
Gouthé-Soulard (Mgr.): Mon Procès : Mes Avocats, 3fr. 50.
Witaczk (H. v.): Märchen der Bukowinäer u. Siebenbürgen, Armenier, 50.

ST. WILLIAM OF NORWICH.

Scarning, November, 1891.

THIRTY years ago, in the course of a long interview I had with Tischendorf at Leipzig, the great critic startled me by an utterance which at the moment I regarded as only a humorous paradox, but which I have since those days learnt to look upon as scarcely an exaggeration. "Depend upon it," he said, "it is very hard to lose anything."

It is very hard to lose anything that is really precious. We often have to wait a long time to find it after it has disappeared, but somehow it turns up at last, oftentimes in the oddest way. The parish of Brent Eleigh, in Suffolk, boasted till recently of a curious parochial library, on whose shelves were found some queer things called ancient codices, supposed to be valuable. This lumber—rightly or wrongly—it was determined to bring to the hammer. The authorities of the Bodleian heard how things were going, and among other purchases they secured the now famous Gospel book of St. Margaret of Scotland, of which the learned have heard much, and not without amazement. But Oxford did not get all it might have got; there were other MSS. still to be had for money and fair words, and Cambridge, too, when more of the MSS. were sold, had a turn of luck.

In the first half of the twelfth century great excitement was aroused through England by the report that the Jews of Norwich had stolen a Christian boy from his parents, horribly tortured him, crucified him, and then buried his body in a wood in the outskirts of the city. The 'Peterborough Chronicle' records the incident, and the story is referred to again and again by historians. Leland the antiquary, to whom Henry VIII. gave a sort of commission as early as 1533 to make a tour of the great monastic and other libraries then existing in England, is said to have met with an elaborate life of the Norwich saint—of course he was canonized—and Pits, Bale, and other writers have been thought to owe their knowledge of the work to information furnished by Leland. The fact seems to be that all gathered their information from Capgrave's 'Nova Legenda Anglie,' printed by Wynkyn de Worde in 1516, and as far as any one knows, no copy of the original has been met with for at least 350 years. It was supposed to have perished in the wholesale destruction of books which ensued upon the pillage of the religious houses. Happily, through the sagacity and generosity of Mr. Montague James, Fellow of King's College, the long-lost work has been recovered at last, and is now deposited in the University Library at Cambridge. It is clearly a thirteenth century manuscript, and not improbably may be the original holograph of the author, a Norwich monk, who tells us his name was Thomas Monemensis, and that he wrote his book at the command of William Turbe, third Bishop of Norwich. The work is dedicated to this bishop in a prefatory epistle of the usual type of such complimentary addresses. The treatise—for it may be called so—is bound up with two other lives of English saints: (1) 'Vita S. Wulrici Anachorete,' (2) 'Vita S. Godrici de Finchale,' together with a short tract entitled 'Epistola domini Ysaac, Abbatis Stellensis, de Officio Missæ,' the whole collection forming a volume of some four hundred leaves of vellum, of which far the largest portion is taken up with the life of St. William. The 'Peter-

borough Chronicle' gives the date of the boy's crucifixion by the Jews as A.D. 1137. Bartholomew Cotton, another Norwich monk, writing 150 years after the event, assigns it to the year 1144. The original 'Life' explains the discrepancy. The exhumation of the child's body, we learn, took place on March 22nd, 1144, but not after having lain buried in Thorpe Wood for some five years previously.

The time has not yet come when the literary and historic importance of this remarkable manuscript could be adequately enlarged upon; but during the six or eight hours that I was privileged to examine it, I was astonished at the numerous points of interest which cropped up, and at the light it shed upon problems of supreme interest on which the student of twelfth century history has long desired to be better informed. The scurrilous Bale—Fuller calls him the Bilious Bale—long ago pointed out how clearly the life of St. William proved to demonstration that the marriage of the clergy in the East Anglian diocese was fully recognized during the twelfth century; for the little "martyr" was the son of a married priest and the nephew of another. There are, moreover, strong indications in the narrative of the clergy being the bitterest enemies of the Jews, who had powerful friends among the Norwich citizens, and I suspect that the story told by Henry of Huntingdon of Bishop Eborard's being compelled to leave his diocese (in 1145) in consequence of his "exceeding cruelty" may be explained by the part he took in hounding on the Norwich mob to pillage the Jewry, and slaughter the persecuted Hebrews. This, however, is as yet only a suspicion.

A much more curious question, however, will come on for discussion as a necessary result of this valuable find. Everybody has read the beautiful 'Prioresses Tale' in Chaucer and will remember the closing stanza, in which the good lady cries out:—

O yonge Hew of Lincoln, slain also
With cursed Jewes, as it is notable,
For it n'is but a litel while ago,
Fray eke for us, we sinful folk unstable.

Now little Hugh of Lincoln is said to have been crucified by the Jews there in 1255, that is more than a century after the Norwich business; and Florence of Worcester tells how on the 12th of September, 1279, a little boy was crucified by the Jews at Northampton, adding, however, "ipso tamen pueru non tunc penitus interfecto." Trivet in his 'Annals' gives two earlier instances of similar atrocities which were alleged against the Jews—in 1171—one at Blois and the other at Gloucester. Ten years later the great Abbey of St. Edmund, not choosing to be behind the Priory of Norwich and having a great deal to complain of at the hands of the Jews who held huge mortgages on the lands of the monastery, discovered another of these boy martyrs, who was said to have been crucified too; and Jocelin de Brakelond drew up an account of him, as he tells us, though this version has perished as the others have. The last instance that I have met with was at Winchester in 1192, and I doubt not that others might be quoted; all, however, seem to have been later than the case at Norwich.

Whence sprang all this cycle of strange stories with incidents so suspiciously identical in character, and many of them related in almost identical words? That question still remains to be answered. In the mean time we have at last recovered what seems to be the earliest form of the legend—or whatever we choose to call it—and the earliest form looks very much more like veritable history than any or all the others. How much is plain fact? how much mere fiction founded upon a small substratum of the other?

AUGUSTUS JESSOPP.

M. PAUL HUNFALVY.

M. PAUL HUNFALVY, the real founder of philological studies in Hungary, died on the

30th ult. He was born on the 12th of March, 1810, at Great Szalok. Subsequently he pursued his studies at Koszeg, of the college of which place he eventually became Professor of Law. In 1848 he was elected a Deputy of the National Assembly, and some few years since became a member of the Upper House.

All public interest in his life centres in his scientific and literary doings. His linguistic and ethnographical works are world-renowned. From 1841, when he became Correspondent of the Buda-Pesth Academy, till quite recently he has taken part in many international scientific congresses, such as that of Geography, at Paris, in 1875, and that of Orientalists, at Stockholm, in 1889. From 1856 to 1862 he published the *Hungarian Linguist* (*Magyar Nyelvészeti*); from the latter year he edited the series of philological works issued by the Academy of Sciences at Buda-Pesth, and for some years past has been principal editor of the *Ungarische Revue*. Among his many works may be mentioned, as published in 1861, his 'Chrestomathia Finica,' the cause and result of many heated controversies as to the origin of the Hungarian language; in 1863, a monograph on 'The Vogul Country and People'; 'A Journey through the Baltic Countries,' issued in 1871; in 1875, 'The Language of the Ostiaques'; an important work on 'Hungarian Ethnography' in 1876; in 1884, 'The Philosophy and Study of Languages'; and a multitude of important pamphlets and essays in Hungarian and German, published in the *Transactions of learned societies* or in reviews. His brochure 'Is the Hungarian Nation of Hunnish or Tartar Origin?' in connexion with Dr. Vámbéry's theory, created some slight stir among Hungarian scientists when it appeared.

He was honorary member and librarian of the Academy of Sciences at Buda-Pesth and professor of the university of the twin cities, as well as member and correspondent of various learned societies.

SALES.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY, WILKINSON & HODGE have lately sold the following books from various libraries, including those of the late Mr. M. L. Le Marchant, Sir Thomas N. Dick Lauder, Bart., Dr. A. R. Saraiva, the late Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps, and others: Lodge, Portraits of Illustrious Personages of Great Britain, large paper, 1821, 38. 10s. Scott's Novels, Poetical Works, and Life, 105 vols., 29. 10s. Horae Beatae Mariae Virginis, illuminated MS. on vellum, sixteenth century, 23. 10s. Lactantii Opera, first edition, but several leaves in facsimile, 1465, 86. Manning and Bray's Surrey, imperfect, large paper, 1804, 27. Horae Beatae Mariae Virginis, illuminated MS. of the fifteenth century, 21. 5s. Barham, Ingoldsby Legends, the three series, first editions, 1840-47, 20. 10s. Thackeray, Paris Sketch-Book, 1840, 15. Zoological Society's Proceedings, 25 parts, 35. Boswell's Life of Johnson, extra illustrated, 2 vols., 1791, 40. Brontë, Wuthering Heights and Agnes Grey, first edition, 1847, 10. Cowper's Poems, first edition, 1782, 12. 15s. Foxe's Book of Martyrs, first edition, imperfect, 1563, 19. Mr. Thackeray, Mr. Yates, and the Garrick Club, the small pamphlet printed for private circulation in 1859, 20. Dickens's Readings, first authorized American edition, 1868, 13. 5s. Dorat, Les Baisers, large paper, 1770, 31. 10s. Laborde, Choix de Chansons, 1773, 37. La Fontaine, Fables Choisies, first edition, 1668, 39. Montaigne, Essays, first edition, Bordeaux, 1580, 48. Shelley, Queen Mab, 1813, 22. 10s. Smith, History of New York, 1757, 26. Tennyson, The Window, presentation copy, 1867, 30. Wordsworth, Descriptive Sketches, first edition, 1793, 40. 10s. Bokes of Divers Medicines, manuscript on vellum, fifteenth century, 45. Shakespeare, 44 vols., with numerous illustrations, 141. Vishnu Purana and Bhagavad Gita, beautifully illuminated Oriental MS., 51.

Collection of Drawings, Engravings, and Cuttings connected with Shakspeare, collected by the late Mr. Halliwell-Phillipps, 76*l.* Goldsmith, Vicar of Wakefield, first edition, 1766, 90*v.*

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. LONGMAN & Co. will issue in February Carlyle's 'Excursion to Paris,' which has been appearing in the *New Review*, and his story 'Wotton Reinfred,' in one crown octavo volume under the title of 'Last Words of Thomas Carlyle.'

THE title of Mr. George Meredith's forthcoming volume of poems is 'Modern Love: a Reprint, together with the Sage Enamoured and the Honest Lady.' It will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. early in January.

THE January number of *Macmillan's Magazine* will contain the opening chapters of Mr. Marion Crawford's new novel, 'Don Orsino.' This will complete the tale of the House of Saracinesca.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish immediately after Christmas the volume of Dean Church's 'Village Sermons' which has already been announced, and also a new edition of his book on 'The Oxford Movement,' uniform with the collected edition of his miscellaneous writings.

In the new volume of the 'Dictionary of National Biography' (Inglis to John), to be published on the 23rd inst., Mr. Sidney Lee writes on Samuel and William Henry Ireland, the Shakspearean forgers, and on Jane (Seymour); Mr. C. H. Firth on General Ireton; Dr. Richard Garnett on Edward Irving, Mrs. Jameson, and Richard Jefferies; Prof. Toton Isabella of France, Edward II.'s queen, and Archbishop Islip; Mr. W. P. Courtney on Cyril Jackson, Dean of Christchurch; Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse on John Jackson, R.A.; Col. Vetch, R.E., on General Sir John Jacob, "of Jacob's Horse"; Sheriff Mackay on James I.-V. of Scotland; Mr. S. R. Gardiner on James I. of England; Dr. A. W. Ward on James II. of England and on William Stanley Jevons; Mr. T. F. Henderson on James, the Old Pretender; Mr. Lionel Cust on Cornelius Janssen, the portrait painter; Mr. Leslie Stephen on Lord Jeffrey; Mr. Russell Barker on "Judge Jeffreys"; Mr. J. A. Hamilton on R. B. Jenkinson, second Earl of Liverpool, and on Douglas Jerrold; Dr. Norman Moore on Edward Jenner, the discoverer of vaccination; Prof. Laughton on Admiral John Jervis, Earl of St. Vincent; Mr. J. M. Rigg on Sir George Jessel; the Bishop of Peterborough on Bishop Jewel; the Rev. William Hunt on John, King of England; and Mr. R. L. Poole on John of Salisbury.

A NEW and cheaper edition of Mr. Lecky's 'History of England in the Eighteenth Century' is to be issued by Messrs. Longman in monthly volumes at six shillings each. This edition will be divided into two sections—"England" (seven volumes), "Ireland" (five volumes). The first volume of "England" will be ready in January. The same firm announce a reprint in half-crown volumes of certain of Mr. Andrew Lang's numerous works. 'Letters to Dead Authors' will appear in January, 'Books and Bookmen' in February, 'Old

Friends' in March, and 'Letters on Literature' in April.

ARCHDEACON THOMAS, of St. Asaph, was fortunate enough to find a few days ago, in the library of Mr. Davies-Cooke, of Gwysean, near Mold, three documents, now bound up in one volume, viz.: 1. A bond for 100*l.* made by William Salesbury, the chief translator of the New Testament and Prayer Book into Welsh. The date of the publication was 1567, that of the bond 1565, just two years before, and, as it had formed the binding of No. 3, there can be little doubt that the money was raised to meet the expenses connected with the publication. 2. A folio (paper) comprising a portion of the original commission to the four bishops to "traduct the boke of the Lorde's Testament into the vulgar Walsh tong." 3. Ten leaves (paper) containing the two Epistles of St. Paul to Timothy, and those to Titus and Philemon, in the handwriting and the translation of Dr. Richard Davies, Bishop of St. Asaph, 1560-61, St. David's, 1561-1581, the coadjutor of Salesbury. This version does not agree with the published version in William Salesbury's New Testament of 1567 or that of Bishop Morgan's version, 1588, or the Authorized of Bishop Parry, 1620. No other autograph of either of these eminent men is known at present to be in existence.

MR. MURRAY will publish shortly a book on 'Ocean Steamships,' based on the articles which have recently appeared in *Scribner's Magazine*, and profusely illustrated.

THE forthcoming big work on Persia, by the Hon. George Curzon, M.P., which was already in the printer's hands when he accepted office as Under-Secretary for India, will be published early in the new year, a slight delay being caused by the engraving of the necessary maps, all of which will be new, and have been specially drawn for this work. Two volumes of 650 pages each will be first published; while a third, containing a bibliography and appendices, will appear at a later date. Mrs. Bishop's book of travels in Persia will be published next week by Mr. Murray.

THERE are many deaths to be recorded this week. We regret to say that Catherine Charlotte, Lady Jackson, the widow of Sir George Jackson, died late on Wednesday night at Bath. Her first appearance in literature, if we mistake not, was when she edited the diaries of her husband (Sir George Jackson, K.C.H., the diplomatist), which were published in 1872. She wrote a book on Portugal in 1874, entitled 'Fair Lusitania,' and she issued in recent years a considerable number of works on French history, e.g., 'Old Paris,' 'The Court of France,' 'The Last of the Valois,' &c. The death is also announced of that well-known Cheshire squire Mr. R. E. Egerton-Warburton, of Arley Hall, Northwich. He was celebrated for his rollicking 'Hunting Songs,' first published nearly sixty years ago, which have gone through a number of editions.

MR. WOLCOTT BALESTIER, who expired on Sunday at a private hospital in Dresden, was both publisher and author. He was the representative in England of the J. W. Lovell Company, New York, and a managing director of Heinemann & Balestier, the

rivals of Baron Tauchnitz at Leipzig. He was also the collaborator of Mr. Kipling in the serial story, 'The Naulahka,' now publishing in the *Century Magazine*, and the author of another novel, 'Benefits Forgot,' which is shortly to appear in the same quarter. Before coming to England three years ago he had published two or more novels in America. He held a position there of some mark. His circle was a wide one among English authors, who held both his literary talents and his business capacity in very high esteem. Mr. Balestier's death was no doubt hastened by the overstrain of many occupations preying upon a natural fragility of constitution. He has left a considerable body of unpublished writings, and it is felt that a career of the highest promise has been unexpectedly cut short. His age was only twenty-eight.

WE are sorry also to hear of the decease of Mr. Marcus Ward, the head of the well-known firm of publishers and stationers.

THE Hon. Stuart Erskine, who has in preparation a life of his ancestor, Lord Erskine, the great Chancellor, would esteem it a favour if any possessors of letters and correspondence from the Chancellor would lend him the originals or copies. In either case they will be returned. Communications may be sent to Mr. Fisher Unwin.

THE Record Society for Lancashire and Cheshire held its annual meeting in Manchester last week, under the chairmanship of Chancellor Christie. The report states that two volumes of the *Publications* are nearly ready for issue. Attention was called to the decline, owing to death, in the number of members. The financial position of the Society is satisfactory.

MR. GEORGE GISSING has completed a new novel, 'Denzil Quarrier.' It will be published by Messrs. Lawrence & Bullen. The same firm will publish immediately a book of short stories by Mr. Morley Roberts, under the title of 'King Billy of Ballarat, and other Stories.'

MRS. LAURENCE GOMME is engaged upon a book of children's games, and also upon a volume dealing with the various local feasts and ceremonial cakes, both of which subjects were rather prominent at the recent Folk-lore Congress.

MR. HENRY NORMAN's long-promised book on Japan is to be called 'The Real Japan: Studies of Contemporary Japanese Manners, Morals, Administration, and Politics.' To these are added chapters on "Japan for the Japanese" and "The Future of Japan." The book will contain nearly sixty illustrations, reproduced from photographs taken by the author.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY of Staffordshire, under the editorship of Mr. Rupert Simms, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, has been for some time past in progress, and some portion of it is now in the printer's hands. It will be supplied to subscribers only, and will be published by Mr. A. C. Lomas, of Lichfield.

MESSRS. EDEN, REMINGTON & Co. have in the press a new novel by Dorothea Gerard, entitled 'On the Way Through'; also 'A Garrison Romance,' by Mrs. Leith Adams.

THE unexpected reappearance in London and provincial papers of a number of stories originally purchased for a London publica-

tion has disturbed the equanimity of several well-known novelists. The surprise is occasioned by the fact that the authors themselves were not aware of the double use which was to be made of their stories.

The decision in the action brought against Messrs. Chapman & Hall offers an unpleasant prospect for publishers. It is impossible for them to guard against the new danger, and even the author who is most honestly bent on avoiding personalities will find himself in trouble if somebody who does not scruple to say that the cap fits him can find a sufficient number of coincidences to convince a jury.

The English Goethe Society is, it seems, not dead, as was rumoured, but is going to have a meeting on the 14th inst. at the rooms of the Society of British Artists.

MESSRS. ALLEN & Co. are going to issue a 'Practical Course of Turkish Study,' by the Rev. Dr. Anton Tien.

M. GABRIEL SARAZIN, author of two volumes of essays on modern English poets, entitled 'La Renaissance de la Poésie Anglaise,' is about to publish a volume of imaginative work, named 'La Montée.'

The Royal Society of Sciences at Göttingen has raised Prof. Max Müller, one of its Corresponding Members, to the rank of one of its Foreign Members.

A STATUE of Edward Irving is to be erected in the town of Annan, where he was born in 1792.

SCIENCE

THE LITERATURE OF ELECTRICITY.

An Introduction to the Mathematical Theory of Electricity and Magnetism. By W. T. A. Emtege, M.A. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

Dynamo Construction: a Practical Handbook for the Use of Engineer-Constructors and Electricians in Charge. By John W. Urquhart. (Crosby Lockwood & Son.)

Elementary Manual of Magnetism and Electricity. By Andrew Jamieson, M.Inst.C.E. (Griffin & Co.)

Decorative Electricity. By Mrs. J. E. H. Gordon. (Sampson Low & Co.)

All these books are good in their several kinds. Mr. Emtege, writing from the theoretical side, gives in small space an admirable summary of those applications of mathematics to electricity and magnetism which are of most importance in modern electrical work. Such a book was greatly needed, few students being able to spare the time necessary for mastering the elaborate treatises of Maxwell and of Mascart and Joubert. The preface informs us that the work is complete in itself, and may be read without previous knowledge of the subject. Beginning with fundamental facts, it goes on to such advanced subjects as the measurement of self-induction and of the ratio r . The last chapter is devoted to dynamos and motors. The whole book, so far as we have dipped into it, exhibits a remarkably firm grip of the various principles which it discusses, and forms an admirable clue for threading one's way through the bewildering intricacies of a very difficult subject. The mathematical work is always neat and compact. The definitions are clear and show original thought. In some matters of fact the book is not up to date. The magnetic susceptibility of a given specimen of iron is spoken of as constant, whereas the laws of its variation form a prominent topic in recent literature. In the discussion on dynamos the modern theory of magnetic circuits is ignored, and we are told that

the Siemens core is made generally of wood wound over with iron wire.

For more recent information on dynamos the student may consult Mr. Urquhart's book. Mr. Urquhart has done for the practical engineer what Mr. Emtege has done for the mathematician. He sets forth in as plain words as possible the leading points in the general theory of dynamos and the leading features of the various types, pointing out the faults of the original patterns and the remedies which have been applied. The subject is intricate and is admirably expounded. Useful quantitative statements are made, and examples are given of the calculations necessary in designing a dynamo to fulfil specified conditions. The illustrations are excellent, some of them being ideal skeletons, while others are representations, in whole or in part, of actual machines. Some of the chief improvements which have been made in dynamos since the Paris Electrical Exhibition of 1881 are connected with the discovery that a law analogous to Ohm's law holds good, roughly at least, for what are called "magnetic circuits," the analogue of electric current being the transmission of magnetic influence as represented by lines of force. To make these lines as numerous as possible the "magnetic resistance" should be kept low. To this end the iron portion of the circuit—that is, the field-magnet cores, yoke, and armature core—should have a minimum of length and a maximum of thickness, and where interruptions occur the intervening layer of air should be thin. The "overtake," in which the armature is at the upper end of the magnets, has superseded the reverse form, in which many lines of force, instead of passing through the core of the armature, "leaked" away to the bed-plate. The lamination of armature cores to prevent undue heating has received much attention. The heating arises from two distinct causes—the production of electric currents in the iron and the reversals of its magnetization. The former is obviated by dividing the core into thin plates, which cut at right angles the direction of the electromotive force due to the motion, the plates being separated by thin sheets of mica.

Compound winding is an important modern device for keeping the currents steady when additional lamps are turned on or off. It consists in a compromise between the two original systems known as the shunt and the series system, one portion of the whole current being passed through the coils of the field-magnets only, while another and larger part passes both through these coils and the external circuit containing the lamps. Sometimes the compromise is arranged with a view to constancy of current and sometimes with a view to constancy of electromotive force, the latter plan being adopted when the lamps do not form a single series, but a number of parallel series.

The book is sufficiently accurate for its own purpose, but we have noticed a few slips in points of theory, such as the statement on p. 34 that "a field is said to exert an attraction or repulsion of so many dynes in a certain area," which conveys the erroneous impression that the intensity of a magnetic field is of the same "dimensions" as the intensity of a fluid pressure. Again, the word *solenoïd* (which occurs twice on p. 320) is spelt "solinoid." On the whole, there is no room for complaint either of inaccuracy or obscurity, and we would recommend the book not only to the mechanical engineers for whom it is mainly intended, but to general readers who wish to follow the march of improvement.

Mr. Jamieson's book is intended for first-year students of electricity and magnetism. There is a delightful freshness about it, and avoidance of beaten tracks. Many of the experiments which it describes are new, and the student is introduced as early as possible to those points which most concern the modern engineer. The author is the head of a School

of Electrical Technology, and specially addresses himself to those who can command the resources of a mechanical workshop.

Mrs. Gordon's book is addressed to persons who intend fitting up their houses with electric lights. Its object is "to consider how far the new illuminant can aid us in our hours of work, and conduce to the comfort and peace of our hours of rest and recreation." It gives sound advice on the commercial and practical side, and an abundance of valuable suggestions towards artistic effect. The subject is one of continually increasing importance, and the designers of our day have an opportunity such as perhaps has never occurred in the history of the world before. Mrs. Gordon, who is the wife of a well-known electrician, has made a good beginning which invites further developments. Her work is beautifully illustrated, charmingly written, and ought to find a place on many a drawing-room table.

MERLE'S 'CONSIDERATIONES TEMPERIEI.'

PERMIT me to point out that it can hardly be said that the MS. has just been discovered (*Athenæum* for November 28th, pp. 726, 727), and that recent inquiries have alone led to its discovery. The MS. is catalogued under its present number, and the author's name duly indexed, in Bernard's 'Cat. MSS. Anglie,' published in 1697; and it is more fully described in the catalogue of the Digby MSS. printed at the Oxford University Press in 1883. That any inquiries made some years ago for it failed of result can only have arisen from their not having been made in right quarters, or from the omitting to consult even the oldest catalogue of the Bodleian MSS. To myself the interest of the volume became very apparent when engaged twelve years ago in describing the collection in which it is found; and as being the earliest known meteorological record I have often spoken of it as a MS. eminently deserving the publication it has now so happily and thoroughly received.

W. D. MACRAY.

CHEMICAL NOTES.

THE discovery of the volatile compound of nickel with carbonic oxide, $\text{Ni}(\text{CO})_4$, has stimulated the investigation of other metallic compounds with this gas. Mond and Quincke, and also Berthelot, have already described a similar volatile compound with iron, which, however, is not so readily formed as the nickel carbon-monoxide, namely, the liquid compound $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$ and also the crystalline, non-volatile compound $\text{Fe}_2(\text{CO})_9$, and such compounds appear to form slowly in the cold under pressure; for volatile iron compounds have been noticed by Roscoe and Scudder in water-gas, especially after it has been compressed in steel cylinders, and by Thorne in compressed coal gas used for the production of the limelight. The compounds of carbon monoxide with platinum chloride discovered twenty years ago by Schützenberger have been reinvestigated by Pullinger and by Mylius and Foerster, and corresponding compounds containing bromine, iodine, and cyanogen have been prepared; but platinum carbon-monoxide itself has not yet been obtained.

The physical and also the physiological properties of the nickel carbonic oxide are being investigated; it is a powerful anti-pyretic, but unfortunately too poisonous to be useful in that way.

Prof. Ostwald had an important paper on 'Chemical Action at a Distance' in the *Philosophical Magazine* for August. He agrees with Arrhenius's theory of free ions in solutions of electrolytes.

M. Moissan, continuing his researches on boron compounds, has formed two new compounds of boron, phosphorus, and iodine, BPI, and BPI'; the former occurs in beautiful red crystals volatilizing at about 170° , and the latter

in orange-coloured crystals volatilizing in *vacuo* at about 210°. He has also obtained a new phosphide of boron, B_P . M. Paul Sabatier has obtained pure boron sulphide, B_2S , in a crystalline form, and also a lower sulphide, B_2S_2 , as well as the corresponding selenides B_2Se and B_2Se_2 . The same investigator has also prepared a silicon selenide, $SiSe$, by heating crystalline silicon to redness in a current of hydrogen selenide; it is vigorously decomposed by water into silicic acid and selenuretted hydrogen.

Winckler has succeeded in forming the hydrides of various metals by heating the metallic oxides with magnesium in an atmosphere of hydrogen; barium, strontium, and calcium hydrides are thus produced, and, though with greater difficulty, those of beryllium and magnesium. These hydrides all appear as dull earthy masses unlike those of potassium and sodium described by Troost and Hautefeuille. Such heat resisting hydrides of earthy metals possibly exist in the glowing atmospheres of fixed stars.

Messrs. W. Thomson and F. Lewis have continued their observations on the action of different metals, metallic salts, acids, and oxidizing agents on indiarubber, and report them in the *Memoirs and Proceedings* of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society. Copper compounds, even in minute quantity, appear to be particularly injurious and destructive to the indiarubber. Chronic acid and peroxide of hydrogen have little effect, though ozone has an injurious effect on indiarubber.

A proposal, of which Prof. J. Attfield is the moving spirit, is on foot to found a Chemists' Benevolent Fund. It has already met with good support from professorial and professional chemists, and the Council of the Chemical Society has been asked to aid by nominating a committee to administer the fund.

SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Dec. 7.—Right Hon. Sir M. E. Grant Duff, President, in the chair.—The following gentlemen were elected Fellows: Sir D. M. Wallace, Hon. C. G. Hay, Rev. W. Morris, Messrs. G. Bolton, T. H. Conway, P. J. Hughes, G. Philip, A. E. Pratt, and J. Thorburn.—The paper read was 'The Passes of the Taurus and Anti-Taurus,' by Mr. D. G. Hogarth.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Dec. 3.—Dr J. Evans, President, and afterwards Mr. H. S. Milman, Director, in the chair.—Mr. Gotch exhibited a silver signet ring of sixteenth century date found at Wadworth, near Doncaster.—Rev. I. G. Lloyd exhibited a silver seal of fourteenth century date found at Milford. It bears the inscription S' HENRICI CAPELANI surrounding a figure of our Lady and Child, with Henry the chaplain kneeling in front. By turning the trefoil handle, the central device screws out to form a distinct and smaller seal. Such seals as this are of very rare occurrence.—Mr. T. F. Kirby reported the discovery of a Roman villa at Twyford. At present only a small set of baths, of a usual plan, have been uncovered, but it is hoped to lay bare the rest of the house in the spring.—Baron de Cosson exhibited and described a beautiful crossbow inlaid with ivory, made for Ulric V., Count of Wurtemberg, in 1460.—The following alterations in the statutes, proposed by the Council, were put to the ballot and duly carried: "Chapter I., section iii., for 'previous to each ballot' substitute 'during the course of each session,' and for 'two' substitute 'three.' Repeal Chapter I., section vii., and substitute 'Ballots for the election of fellows other than those who may be elected under sections iv. and v. shall take place, if there be vacancies, at such ordinary meetings of the Society as the Council from time to time may appoint. No fellow whose annual subscription is unpaid shall be capable of giving a vote. The candidates shall be put to the ballot in the order in which they are proposed, but not more than six ballots shall be taken on any one evening. At each of the two ordinary meetings of the Society previous to that at which the ballot is to take place a list of the candidates to be put up for ballot shall be read from the chair, and a copy of such list shall be suspended in the meeting-room.'"—Sir J. C. Robinson having called the attention of the Society to the proposed destruction of the ancient Grammar School at Totnes to make way for a new police station, it was unanimously resolved, "That the local secretaries for

Devonshire be requested to inquire into the matter, and take any steps in their power to prevent the destruction of this ancient and picturesque building. That the Secretary of this Society write to the Mayor of Totnes calling attention to the report that has been heard."

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.—Nov. 25.—Dr. Taylor in the chair.—Mr. E. W. Brabrook read a paper 'On the Origin and Progress of the Society,' which originated in a suggestion made by Bishop Burgess, of St. David's, in October, 1820.—In the subsequent discussion the following took part: the Chairman (the Master of St. John's), Dr. D. Lithgow, Messrs. R. B. Holt, H. J. Reid, and P. W. Ames, Secretary.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Dec. 3.—Mr. E. Green in the chair.—The Chairman referred to the great loss the Institute had sustained by the death of the Bishop of Carlisle, who had ever given a hearty support to archaeology, and had taken a lively interest in the work of the Institute.—Mr. Green then read a paper, communicated by Mr. A. Vicars, 'On an Illuminated Pedigree of the Peverel Family.' It was written in Latin on vellum, and had thirty-five emblazoned coats of arms. Mr. Vicars gave a short historical sketch of the family, and commented on the purity and simplicity of the heraldry, which was remarkably free from "laden coats." As no certificate was attached to the pedigree, it could not be considered as an official document, though it might have been compiled by a herald. Mr. Vicars considered its probable date to be between the years 1591 and 1612. Mr. E. Green said that many of the pedigrees of those days were made up and not to be relied on.—Mr. H. Gosselin, in the absence of Mr. E. Peacock, read his paper 'On Warnot and Warlot,' terms connected with certain divisions of land in the neighbourhood of the Humber and the Ouse. Mr. Peacock quoted extracts from the survey of the manor of Kirton-in-Lindsey and from other documents, in which one or other of these words appeared. He had taken some pains to discover their meaning, but had not been able to make out anything satisfactory.—Mr. R. W. Taylor said that probably these terms referred to land held by some officer of the manor in virtue of his office.

LINNEAN.—Dec. 3.—Prof. Stewart, President, in the chair.—The following were elected Fellows: Sir W. Sendall, Messrs. T. M. MacKnight, W. A. Blaber, C. Frost, H. Sutherland, J. Keys, W. S. Campbell, A. Molineux, and W. H. Strachan.—The President announced the recent bequest by the late Sir G. MacLeay of a marble bust of his father, the late Dr. W. S. MacLeay, formerly a Fellow and Vice-President of the Society.—The President then exhibited a series of specimens of a South American beetle, showing the extremes of variation of colour observable within the limits of a single species.—Mr. J. E. Harting exhibited a photograph of an abnormally situated nest of the chimney swallow, *Hirundo rustica*, which had been built for the second time on a swinging hook in an outhouse, and made some remarks on three recorded cases of swallows nesting in trees, a most unusual habit.—The Botanical Secretary read a paper, by Mr. W. West, on the freshwater Algae of the west of Ireland, and exhibited, by way of illustration, a number of preparations under the microscope and a series of beautiful drawings by the author.—The paper was criticized by Messrs. A. W. Bennett and E. M. Holmes, both of whom testified to the excellence of the work done and the value of the drawings.—The Zoological Secretary next read a paper, by Dr. W. H. Strachan, on the tick pest of Jamaica, which was characterized as of so serious a nature as to demand investigation by entomologists with a view to a remedy.—An interesting discussion followed, in which Mr. D. Morris supplied a variety of details from personal experience during a residence of some years in Jamaica, and Mr. A. D. Michael pointed out the generic character of certain West Indian ticks which were likely to include those found in Jamaica by Dr. Strachan. The question of remedy for this plague was discussed by Dr. J. Lowe and Messrs. T. Christy, Breeze, and T. J. Briant.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Nov. 30.—*Conversazione.*—There was a large attendance at this meeting. Various objects and instruments were exhibited.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Dec. 2.—Right Hon. Lord Walsingham, V.P., in the chair.—Messrs. H. A. Hill, F. N. Pierce, and C. F. Tufnell were elected Fellows.—Dr. D. Sharp exhibited and commented on a number of photographs of various species of Lucanidae belonging to M. R. Oberthür.—Mr. C. G. Barrett exhibited specimens of local forms and varieties of Lepidoptera, taken by Mr. P. Russ near Sligo, including *Pieris napi*, var. *bryoniae*; *Anthocharis cardamines* (male), with the orange

blotch edged with yellow, and yellowish forms of the female of the same species; very blue forms of *Polyommatus albus*; males of *P. alexia*, with the hind margin of the under wings spotted with black, and very handsome forms of the female; also varied series of *Agrotis cursoria*, *A. tritici*, and *A. talligera*.—The Rev. S. St. John exhibited two specimens of *Lycana argiades*, taken by Dr. Marsh in 1881; three specimens of *Deliphila euphorbiae*, bred from larvae found feeding on *Euphorbia paralias* on the Cornish coast in September, 1888; and a series of various forms of *Anchoa pista*, all taken in a garden at Arundel.—Lord Walsingham, Mr. Barrett, and Mr. McLachlan took part in the discussion which ensued.—Mr. Jenner-Weir exhibited two dark specimens of *Zygana minos* which had been caught in Carnarvonshire. Mr. Weir expressed an opinion that the specimens were not representatives of complete melanism, and suggested that the word "phæsim" — from φαίνει, dusky — would be a correct word to apply to this and similar departures from the normal coloration of a species.—Mr. C. J. Gahan exhibited specimens of the common "book-louse," *Atropos pulsatoria*, *Fabr.*, which he had heard making a ticking noise similar to that made by the "death-watch" (Anobium).—Mr. B. A. Bower exhibited the following rare species of Micro-Lepidoptera: *Spilota pauperana*, *Frol.*; *Gelechia ossicella*, *Stn.*; *Chrysoclysta bimaculella*, *Haw.*; and *Elachista cingulella*, *Fisch.*.—Mr. R. Adkin exhibited a variety of *Anthocharis cardamines*, and one specimen of *Sesia scoliaformis* bred from a larva found at Bannoch.—Mr. G. T. Baker read a paper entitled "Notes on *Lycana* (recte *Thecla*) *rhymnus*, *tengstræmii*, and *pretiosa*."—A discussion followed, in which Lord Walsingham, Capt. Elwes, and Mr. Baker took part.—Mr. F. Merrifield read a paper entitled "The Effects of Artificial Temperature on the Colouring of *Vanessa urticae* and certain other Species of Lepidoptera." The author stated that both broods of all three species of *Selenia*, *Platypteryx falcataaria*, *Vanessa urticae*, *Bombyx querens* and var. *calluna*, and *Chelonia caja* were affected by temperature in the pupal stage, the lower temperature generally producing the greater intensity and darkness of colour; some of the *Vanessa urticae* made a near approach to the var. *polaris* of Northern Europe.—A long discussion ensued, in which Mr. E. B. Poulton, Prof. Meldola, Mr. Barrett, and Lord Walsingham took part.—Mr. W. Bateson read a paper entitled 'On the Variation in the Colour of the Cocoons of *Eriogaster lanestris* and *Saturnia carpini*,' and exhibited a large number of specimens in illustration of the paper.—Lord Walsingham congratulated Mr. Bateson on his paper, and on the intelligent care and method shown in his experiments. He had noticed that the larvae of *S. carpini*, if left in a box with dead food, and probably partially starved, made a light-coloured cocoon; but that when the cocoon was made under natural conditions, on living food-plants on the moors, it was of a dark colour.—Mr. Poulton, Prof. Meldola, and Mr. Bateson continued the discussion.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 8.—Mr. G. Berkley, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On the Sale of Water by Measure in Berlin,' by Mr. H. Gill.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Dec. 7.—Sir J. C. Browne, Treasurer and V.P., in the chair.—Mrs. D. Powell, Mrs. T. Threlfall, Messrs. L. A. Groth, J. Imray, G. S. Johnson, J. List, and J. Shand were elected Members.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 7.—Mr. W. N. Colam, President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. G. M. Lawford, 'On the Drainage of Town Houses.'

ARISTOTELIAN.—Nov. 30.—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair.—Mr. A. M. Daniell was elected a Member.—Mr. A. B. Bontwood read a paper 'On Croll's Philosophical Basis of Evolution.'—The paper was followed by a discussion.

SHORTHAND.—Dec. 1.—Mr. T. R. Wright in the chair.—Mr. T. S. Malone read a paper in which he submitted in general terms proposals for an enlargement of the Society's operations, with the view, ultimately, of establishing a chartered Institute of Shorthand. As a beginning he advocated a meeting room or club room always open for the use of members, and a small news sheet as a means not only of giving truthful shorthand news, but as a vehicle very much wanted just now for the correction of false statements industriously circulated by persons having an interest in hiding the facts.—A committee of members was appointed to consider and report how far any of the points in the proposed scheme can be combined with the Society's present operations.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Mon. London Institution, 6.—'Tropical Plants and Flowers,' Mr. D. Morris.

Tues. Institute of British Architects, 8.—'The True Sense of the Term *a priori*,' Mr. J. H. Murdoch.

Wednesday, 9.—'The Pigments and Vehicles of the Old Masters,' Lecture III., Mr. A. P. Laurie (Cantor Lecture).

Thurs. Statistical, 7.—'Enumeration and Classification of Paupers and State Penitentiaries for the year 1889,' Mr. C. Booth.

Fri. Club of Engineers, 8.—'Further Discussion on Mr. H. Gill's Paper, "Sale of Water by Meter in Berlin."

Sat. Meteorological, 7.—'Report on the Thunderstorms of 1888 and 1889,' Mr. W. Marrott.

Sundays, 9.—'Prevalence of Fog in London during the Twelve Years 1871-1882,' Mr. J. J. Broome.

Mon. Society of Arts, 7.—'Archaeological Museum, as exemplified by the Pitt Rivers Museum at Oxford,' General Pitt Rivers.

Tues. Microscopical, 8.—'Resolution of Podura,' Hon. J. G. P. Vereker.

Thurs. Royal, 4.

Fri. London Institution, 6.—'Winchester Cathedral,' Dean of Winchester.

Sat. Numismatic, 7.

Sundays, 8.—'Development of the Head of the Image of Chronomus,' Prof. L. C. Miall and Mr. A. R. Hammond; 'Two Species of Cucumbers in New Zealand,' Mr. G. M. Thompson.

Mon. Historical, 8.—'The Secret Service under George III.,' Mr. R. F. Stevens.

Tues. Chemical, 8.—'The Composition of Cooked Vegetables,' Miss K. Williams.

Wednesday, 9.—'Metallic Sulphides,' Mr. G. S. E. Williams and H. Pictor.

Thurs. Physical, 8.—'Physical Constitution of some Solutions of Insoluble Sulphides,' Mr. H. Pictor; and six other Papers.

Fri. Antiquaries, 8.—'Casts, Rubbings, &c., from a Portrait-Bust with Inscription at Frampton, Lincolnshire,' Rev. T. G. T. Towneley.

Sundays, 9.—'Recent Excavations at Silchester,' Part II., Mr. G. E. Fox.

Mon. Archaeological, 10.—'Animal Remains found at Silchester,' Mr. H. Jones.

Tues. Physical, 5.—'Interference with Alternating Currents,' Mr. H. Kilgour.

Science Gossip.

We greatly regret to hear, just as we are going to press, of the death of the distinguished geologist Sir A. Crombie Ramsay, which occurred on Wednesday night.

THE death is announced of M. Alphand, the celebrated engineer, who contributed so largely to the embellishment of the French capital.

In connexion with the King's College Ladies' Department, at 13, Kensington Square, a course of nine lectures, illustrated by experiments, on 'Chemistry of Matter in Relation to Life,' will be delivered on Monday mornings, beginning on the 18th of January. The lecturer will be Mr. G. Stillingfleet Johnson, F.C.S.

ANOTHER small planet, No. 322, was discovered by M. Borrelly at Marseilles on the 27th ult. This raises the number found in the present year to twenty, equal to that of those found in 1879 and exceeding those in any other year.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS in WATER COLOURS. — The WINTER EXHIBITION of SKETCHES and STUDIES is NOW OPEN. — Pall Mall East, from 10 till 5. — Admittance, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D. FRIPP, R.W.S., Secretary.

THE VICTORIAN ERA. — An EXHIBITION of PORTRAITS and OBJECTS of INTEREST illustrating Fifty Years of Her Majesty's Reign. Patron, H.M. the Queen. — Open daily from 10 to 6 — New Gallery, Regent Street.

LEONARD C. LIMSDAY, Secretary.

NURNBERG AND ROTHENBURG. — The EXHIBITION of WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS by WILFRID HALL, NOW OPEN. — Admission, 1s., including Catalogue, at Robert Dunthorne's, the Rembrandt Head Gallery, 5, Vigo Street, London, W.

GIFT-BOOKS.

Twelve Packs of Hounds: being a Collection of Sketches of some of the Hounds and their Masters that I have Seen. By John Charlton. (Simpkin & Co.) — Mr. Charlton, who is well known as a military painter, has shown plenty of skill in drawing horses, and felicity in designing them; so whatever he undertakes in this line of subjects is worth looking at. Accordingly, hunting sketches and racing themes are seldom so well handled as in the volume before us; they are due to a firm, vigorous, and spirited hand, and represent with an unusual amount of sympathy adventures with various packs of hounds, such as the "Morpeth," and those which are known as the "Tynedale," "North Durham," "Eskdale," and "Pytchley." The sketches, coloured or uncoloured, are capital, whether dogs, horses, men, or landscapes are depicted. Mr. Charlton seldom, and when he "means business" never, introduces ladies in his illustrations. His portraits of certain "M. F.s" and other huntsmen are excellent.

The Cruikshankian Monum: Pictorial Broad-sides and Humorous Song-Headings (Nimmo),

illustrates in fifty-two comic designs to popular ballads the characteristics and the fun of the three Cruikshanks: Isaac the father, and Robert and "the Great George," his sons. They are alike coloured by hand on facsimile outlines, and the colouring is excellent, not the less so because it changes with each of the draughtsmen, and their work is copied so deftly that hardly any of its spirit and technical qualities are lost in the process. It is fortunate that the pictures of George Cruikshank are more numerous than those of both the other artists combined, as well as much superior to them. The sort of wit which found favour in the time of the father is well represented by such designs as the so-called "Good Joke," a night piece, in which a country parson, quitting a merry meeting, is placed by jolly companions in the saddle with his face to his pony's tail. It is a poor thing, and the point lies, not in the design, but in the letterpress, which makes the parson lament that some one had cut off the head of his steed, which he did not find in the usual place. The early art of George Cruikshank is a design of 1805, which depicts the fun, and illustrates the very strange costumes, of a midshipman's mess on board a ship of war. It excels the work of his father in every respect, and yet, as Mr. Reid, George Cruikshank's prophet, remarked, the artist was influenced by his father in many productions of that period; indeed, while we know that some of the son's works were published with Isaac's name, it is often doubtful to whom they should be ascribed. In a design accompanying Capt. Morris's "Celebrated Drinking Song" called "Sound Philosophy," which was ordered to be sung to the tune of "Jolly Dick the Lamplighter," and is dated June 4th, 1806, the more vivacious and original genius of George Cruikshank has manifestly the upper hand in the lively, varied, and comely faces of the five toppers; but the tame design and the miserable bottles and glasses betray the weaker hand of Cruikshank *père*. How Isaac thought

— Rosabell to heaven commands
The man her soul admires,

and how she, with a baby in one hand and a wet handkerchief in the other, waved a farewell to her lover, can be seen in 'Rosabell,' which is not without prettiness and a sense of grace Isaac was quite capable of; and, although it bears both names, we see in it little George Cruikshank could boast of. W. J. Donne's burlesque song on the ballad which only too truly described the fate of the "Unfortunate Miss Baily" is dated 1807, and accompanied by a vignette showing the ghost of the fair suicide at the foot of the bed of the gallant captain. In her figure, and, above all, in her face, are the earliest instances we, either in this book or elsewhere, have met of the true female type of "beauty" of Cruikshank. In the "Old Commodore," a sort of Bill Barley — *vide* the tail-piece to a "thundering" ballad of Lonsdale, 1807 — we have the veritable type of Dickens's roaring old skipper. It is incomparably better than the bigger coloured print which bears the names of the father and son. 'The Election Ball' was published in 1819, with a vignette of a dancing party which no one but G. Cruikshank could have designed — it shows him at his best. A better drawing of a sailor describing to his mates the chase and capture of a French frigate could not be devised, and the print attests how he, according to his wont, adapted a design of Lieut. Sheringham. The latest of the excellent designs before us illustrates Harrison Ainsworth's song, "Nix my dolly, pals, fake away!" one of the most popular songs which ever came into vogue from the stage; it is dated 1839. Its tail-piece here is the well-known design of Jack Sheppard cutting his name on the beam in his master's workshop.

Pictures from Shelley. With Designs by E. E. Dell. (Macmillan & Co.) — The illustrations

with which Miss Etheline Ella Dell has, in the designs of this sumptuously printed volume, endeavoured to give solidity and pictorial expression to the poetic rhapsodies of Shelley when describing atmospheric and terrestrial phenomena, bring the lady into perilous comparison — on the one hand with Gustave Doré's pyrotechnic displays, and, whenever she hits on anything of the finer sort, with Turner when he was not by any means at his best. Such comparisons are, of course, unfavourable to Miss Dell and her emotional mood. It is impossible to criticize her pictures (which, by the way, are woodcuts) within reasonable limits, and it is, therefore, only possible to sum up against her by saying that when she approaches Turner's methods it is by showy and hackneyed means, inferior to those of Pyne. "They do these things better in the theatre" is true of her designs. We are convinced that her works owe much to the beautiful handicraft of the assistants of Mr. J. D. Cooper, under whose care they were engraved and printed. In these respects she has been most fortunate.

The One Hoss Shay, with its Companion Poems 'How the Old Horse won the Bet' and 'The Broomstick Train.' By O. W. Holmes, with Illustrations by H. Pyle. (Gay & Bird.) — The author of these poems sets a higher value upon them than we do. The second is the best. Mr. Pyle's sketches are poorly-drawn trivialities. — *The Vision of Sir Launfal.* By J. R. Lowell, with Designs by E. H. Garrett. (Same publishers.) Although it is far from being the best work of the author of 'The Biglow Papers,' it was well to reprint 'The Vision' in this neat little volume. Two landscape illustrations are rather pretty, the rest are poor. — *Antony and Cleopatra*, by W. Shakespeare, with an Introduction by W. J. Rolfe (Crosby Lockwood & Son), a handsomely printed volume, contains, in addition to the text, illustrations by M. Paul Avril, some of which are pretty and neat, while the others are of no account. Collectively they show how much happier was M. Avril in making brilliant little sketches to illustrate 'The Sunshade' and 'The Fan' of M. O. Uzanne than when he took Shakespeare in hand. Mr. Rolfe's essay is clear, sympathetic, and intelligent.

NEW PRINTS.

WE have to thank Messrs. Obach & Co. for *remarque* proofs of two fine etchings, the vigour and purity of which are proofs of the flourishing condition of this method of engraving. In fact, it is not too much to say that, excepting certain isolated examples of superlative merit, no period has produced so many fine specimens of the art as the present. The more important and masculine of these plates is by Prof. W. Unger, whose prints of the masterpieces in the Belvedere at Vienna are well known to our readers. It represents, at 25*1/2* by 15*1/2* in., the famous group of portraits of 'The Two Sons [Albert and Nicholas] of Rubens,' by his first wife, painted about 1626 by their father at whole length; the elder in black and the younger dressed in blue. The picture, which is Smith's 327, is in the Lichtenstein Gallery at Vienna; a somewhat inferior version is at Dresden. The former was mezzotinted on a large plate by J. P. Pichler, and also reproduced by G. F. Muller. The new version is very strong and full of colour, instinct with the true Rubensian touch, at once emphatic and crisp, and rich in light and tone. The draughtsmanship is excellent, and the work a thoroughly satisfactory reproduction of one of the finest portrait groups in the world. Seeking a fault, we find that the eyes of Albert Rubens are slightly, very slightly, out of drawing. Our proof is on Japanese paper, with the *remarque*, the armorial shield of the painter. Of the plate seventy-five *remarque* proofs on vellum and an equal number on Japanese paper, and no other states, were taken. The plate has been, or will be, de-

stroyed. The other print is a *remarque* proof on vellum etched by Heer P. J. Arendzen after Lord Ashburton's renowned Terburg, 'The Music Lesson,' which was No. 72 at the Academy in 1890 and is Smith's No. 2. The tonality and the soft and finished surface of Terburg, his polished workmanship, the brilliant chiaroscuro and sumptuous colouring of the picture, are finely given in this admirable plate. The expressions and actions of the figures, not less than the harmony of the whole, deserve the highest praise. The *remarque* is Lord Ashburton's armorial bearings. The print is 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

From Mr. Dunthorne we have received an artist's proof of one of the finest and richest-toned etchings it has been our good fortune to see. The brilliant print abounds in colour, is a highly spirited translation, and renders most elaborately the varied textures and sparkling chiaroscuro of an original which, although the technique of the painter thoroughly favours the work of the etching needle, must have been most difficult to treat in so sympathetic and successful manner. It is M. Laguillermie's reproduction of Mr. Orchardson's highly dramatic picture 'The Young Duke,' which was at the Academy in 1889. The lifelike attitudes and expressions, the dresses and the glittering equipage of the feast, not less than the vivid whiteness of the tablecloth, are of the first quality, and the whole is a true example of etching proper at its best. It measures 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 28 in., and is issued in one state only, and limited to five hundred impressions. We are indebted to the same publisher for an artist's proof of M. Gaujean's plate (12 by 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.) of the beautiful Rossetti in Mr. J. Rae's collection called 'A Christmas Carol,' a damsel singing to a sort of a two-stringed lute, which she touches with both her hands. The original is a magnificent piece of colour, comprising, in strong tones and in glowing light, deep crimson, glittering gold, and ivory-like white. These hues assort, as Rossetti knew how to make them, with the bright, rich, and deep carnations and the girl's black hair. The etcher could hardly have done better with these elements of his subject. The difficulty was with the face, its beautiful and original forms, its complete absorption and yearning look. In these respects the etching falls very little short of perfection. The best we can say for it is that it is worthy of Rossetti, and that he would have been almost if not quite satisfied with this translation of his work.

KIRKSTALL ABBEY.

MR. J. T. MICKLETHWAITE, to gratify his taste for the hideous, and to make the investments of his clients in slate and bricklayers as sound as may be, has, it seems, converted Kirkstall Abbey into "the semblance of a cockney rockery."

In the course of his reply to my comments on the methods he has pursued he makes three assertions: 1. That I "would have a building of historical value fall to pieces rather than permit reasonable means to be taken to preserve it for posterity." 2. That my opinions have "a good deal in common" with those of the "artists" who, according to Mr. Micklēthwaite, regard a "ruin" as only an incident in landscape gardening and a variety of the rockery." 3. That I select Fountains Abbey for contrast with that of Kirkstall.

With regard to assertion No. 1, may I ask Mr. Micklēthwaite whence, either from my letter or the columns of your journal, any such inference can be drawn? I regard these ancient remains as "a great national inheritance," and I shall always rejoice at any "reasonable means" which may be taken for their preservation. As to what constitutes reasonable means, thousands of people who have far more right to an opinion than I, have the misfortune to disagree with Mr. Micklēthwaite.

For the second assertion I am much obliged. I should be glad to hear where my opinions coincide with those of Mr. Micklēthwaite's imaginary "artists"; for all strange opinions are worthy of note, even opinions so extraordinary as his would appear to be on what constitutes the beautiful, and the value of our ancient buildings to the nation.

The third assertion has evidently arisen from a careless perusal of my letter. I did not contrast Fountains Abbey with that of Kirkstall. My letter alludes to a note on the Abbey which appeared in the *Athenæum*, as one of two instances proving that "preservative measures of the right kind in the case of ancient buildings are often urged and always encouraged" in the columns of that journal. As a matter of fact I believe that portions of Fountains Abbey are clothed with ivy at the present time.

As for the "insidious and deadly poison" to whose universal presence and matchless beauty England owes so much, there always have been and will be two opinions concerning its connexion with buildings. To find these opinions expressed it is only necessary to turn to such works as Johns's 'Forest Trees,' Coleman's 'Woodlands, Heaths, and Hedges,' or 'The Journal of a Naturalist.' My own opinion (partly gathered by inhabiting for many years a room the external walls of which were thickly covered with ivy) is the same as that expressed by Dr. Lindley after a comparison of many conflicting statements in the *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

The church at Kirkstall, says Mr. Micklēthwaite, up to 1779 "must have remained almost as perfect as when the timber and lead were stripped from the roofs at the Suppression." "Even now," he continues, "it is the most complete Cistercian church we have in England." It would seem, then, that the "poison" which has lately been removed from these walls, however deadly it may be, is somewhat slow in its action. There turns out to be some fairly good material to be "attended to" by Mr. Micklēthwaite, even after three centuries or so of poisoning.

To quote two instances out of hundreds, ivy covers (or did so quite recently) much of Haddon Hall, and clothed for many years, I am told, the walls of Carisbrooke Castle. Will Mr. Micklēthwaite undertake to say that such portions of the walls of Kirkstall Abbey itself as were covered by ivy growing in the ground below were not found to be in as good preservation as the uncovered portions?

I am unable to accept the invitation to give examples of "ruined buildings which have been and are being benefited by the ivy growing on them." I said, and I believe, that instances might be called to mind where ivy "kept within proper bounds" has become a source of strength. To remove ivy which grows upon a building is one thing—to rend it from the walls to which it clings is another.

It would be a pardonable touch of human nature in any professional gentleman whose skill had been devoted to "doing up" an ancient building which had stood in a fair degree of perfection (even though partly unroofed), say since 1539, to maintain that, without his services, it would speedily have tumbled down. We must make allowances for human nature.

Mr. Micklēthwaite concludes by saying that it was much to the advantage of the appearance of Fountains Abbey that the ivy was removed from the walls! Of such an opinion I think it is well to leave him in peaceable and solitary possession.

A. H. PALMER.

** We cannot insert any more letters on this subject.

Fine-Art Gossip.

A GREAT change and vast improvement has lately been effected by Mr. Murray in the Entrance Hall of the British Museum. He has removed the Lycian tombs, the size of which put

the great hall out of scale, and where they stood he has arranged smaller sculptures, such as the equestrian group from the Farnese collection, the beautiful marble sphinx, the two dogs at play, the large vase from Tivoli, the statue of a Roman poet (hitherto unknown to the world because it has long been in one of the sheds), the standing statue of Marcus Aurelius, and many busts. On the walls are being placed several inscribed slabs from Ephesus of much historic value and wealth of details. These are, we hope, to be framed and glazed.

In the Greco-Roman Room may be noticed with interest the much injured, but beautifully executed and spiritedly designed group (that has been lately added) in green basalt of Cupid on a dolphin. It came from Egypt, and is of the Ptolemaic period.

No more decided improvement has been for many years made in the galleries of antique sculptures, British Museum, than the removal from the Elgin Room of the so-called Lion of Cnidus. This uncouth thing, the work of some provincial stone-carver, has been taken down to the Mausoleum Gallery, where it is likely to be placed against the wall, and nearly, we hope, out of sight. In this gallery it is proposed to collect in a group, and place them on a pedestal in proper relation to each other, all the fragments of the colossal group of Mausolus and Artemisia in their chariot, which originally surmounted the Mausoleum. This disposition of the fragments would be instructive in the highest degree. There are plenty of marble blocks, brought from the Mausoleum, and of no other interest whatever, for making the large pedestal. It is, meanwhile, intended to place these relics in the middle of the Mausoleum Gallery, near the old Print Room, and to place the statues of Mausolus and his queen, which since they arrived in this country have stood apart, as if they knew nothing of each other, in their original relationship, and at the proper height above the floor. The fragments of two wheels, which some years ago were unfortunately combined with much new stone to make one wheel (!), are to be separated and, as well as may be, shown beside the chariot, the colossi, and the relics of the great horses, which are now arranged awkwardly enough. The fragments of the wheels will be placed on each side of the chariot. The beautiful fragment of the chariot frieze has been removed from the corner where it has been placed obscurely on the wall, and is to be placed conspicuously in the centre of the room. Its style seems to affirm that this is the only relic pertaining to the Mausoleum which is the work of Scopas's own hand.

THE Italian Minister of Public Instruction, Prof. Villari, has presented a regulation to the Council of State with reference to the application of the law of 1871, relating to the nationalization of works of art. This act is evidently due to the proximate compulsory sale of the Borghese Gallery.

THE Town Council of Amsterdam has granted the sum of 500,000 florins for the erection of a new picture gallery.

MUSIC

The Music and Musical Instruments of Southern India and the Deccan. By Capt. C. R. Day. (Novello, Ewer & Co.)

THIS book, dealing with a little-known subject, has been published in an expensive form and a limited edition which is to be the only one, and is dedicated to H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn. It is illustrated by seventeen plates of musical instruments, after drawings by Mr. William Gibb, reproduced in chromo-litho-

graphy with similar perfection to the reproduction of drawings by the same artist in Mr. A. J. Hipkins's 'Musical Instruments, Historic, Rare, and Unique,' which appeared in 1888. The present work is introduced by Mr. Hipkins with some remarks pertinent to the study of a subject which lies far outside the experience of European musicians. Capt. Day tells us in his preface that it has been the subject of much study and research during a term of foreign service while his regiment was in India. One of the excellences of the book is that it is the outcome of independent study, and that while the author has necessarily read and used the published works bearing upon his subject, by such authorities as Sir William Jones (who first called attention to it), Capt. Willard, and the Rajah Sir Sourindro Mohun Tagore, he has subordinated them to his own judgment, derived from personal knowledge and from native sources, aided by musical feeling and the strongest sympathy with his subject. He also acknowledges in the preface the assistance he has used from contemporary sources to make his work complete. It is not too much to say there is no book of the kind existing comparable with this one, to which an inquirer about Indian music can turn; and the accuracy in the delineation of the musical instruments renders comparatively unnecessary any reference to actual specimens.

There are two systems of Indian music, of common origin, but separated into northern and southern by the influence, in the former, of the Mohammedan conquest. Capt. Day defines them as the Hindustani and the Karnatic, and it is with the latter, as the purer stream of Hindu tradition from the old Sanskrit source, that he has principally concerned himself. After mentioning the oldest Sanskrit authorities, he proceeds to the theoretical Indian octave scale, and explains all that is known about the characteristic division of the octave into twenty-two small intervals, which are called *srtis*. But in modern practice this is entirely superseded by a chromatic division which is practically our equal temperament. It is not known whether the *srtis* were of equal dimension or not. Theory always differs from practice, which it in the first instance follows and is intended to explain; but practice alters, develops, and decays, while theory remains stationary and is yet received as the authentic explanation. Our Western music as written and played is a constant witness to a discrepancy as great as that to be found between English orthography and pronunciation. The pains it causes the learner are as troublesome as they are unnecessary, and the historical plea for the retention of such contradictions is untenable. As to the division of the octave into twelve, in a foot-note Capt. Day quotes from Sir William Jones:—

"I tried in vain to discover in practice any difference between the Indian scale and that of our own; but knowing my ear to be very insufficiently exercised, I requested a German professor to accompany on his violin a Hindu lutenist, who sang by note some popular airs on the loves of Krishna and Radha, and he assured me that the scales were the same; and Mr. Shore afterwards informed me that when the voice of a native singer was in tune with his harpsichord, he found the Hindu series of

seven notes to ascend like ours—by a sharp third."

Capt. Day continues:—

"From many experiments I am led to believe that a wrong idea as to the temperament of the Indian scale—as practically employed—has hitherto been held. I played over all the various scales shown later upon a pianoforte—tuned to equal temperament—in the presence of several well-known Hindustani and Karnatic musicians, all of whom assured me that they corresponded exactly to those of the vina. Upon comparing the two instruments this was found to be the case—as far as could be judged by the ear alone—in every instance."

In this respect India, although contiguous to Siam and Burma, differs, as Europe differs, from the pentatonic and heptatonic scales of the Chinese and Indo-Chinese. In the first place Hindu octave scales are tetrachordal, sometimes symmetrical, more often not—a conception foreign to the yellow-skinned races. In the 'chacrams,' or sets of six scales ('thâts'), the lower tetrachord of the octave distinguishes the group and is always the same, while the upper tetrachord varies, and in only one of the set is symmetrical with the lower one. In our own narrower practice of major and minor scales the same fixity of the lower tetrachord prevails—a resemblance which should be borne in mind as throwing light upon the common foundation of Indo-European music.

In the fourth group of the seventy-two Karnatic scales given by Capt. Day our minor scale appears in the ascending and descending forms, and also in the so-called harmonic form. Our major scale resembles the Madhyama-grâma, having in just intonation similar unsymmetrical tetrachords; but in the Shadja-grâma the sixth is raised by a comma, and the tetrachords are symmetrical. In thirty-two of the seventy-two scales the lower tetrachord is comprised within the perfect fourth; while in the remaining forty the augmented fourth, or tritone, is employed. Among popular scales for râgas are our major and minor (descending), and the first, third, and seventh church tones, with a chromatic mode (c, d flat, e, f, g, a flat, b natural, c), called Mâyamâvgaula. This, in fact, the chromatic genus of the ancient Greeks, is the most popular, and is employed, as we use the major scale, for elementary exercises. Capt. Day points out the agreement between some of these scales or modes and the old Greek. Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Hypolydian, Ionic, and Æolic are there. So the question, as already inferred, arises, Does community of Aryan descent account for a common origin, at least in material, of Greek and Sanskrit music, as it accounts for the relationship of the languages?

Of course Capt. Day has much to say about the râga, the very kernel of Indian music. The full meaning of the word is "that which creates passion." It is necessary to separate clearly râga from thât, a scale or mode, as the latter only supplies the notes from which the râga (which he defines as "melody type") is selected. The word, however, and possibly the idea it conveys, belong only to the later Sanskrit treatises. The time measures are "tâlas," which show the great and flexible varieties of rhythm, a ready illustration of which is in modern Indian drum-playing. The beating may be

in two, three, four, five, six, seven, or nine notes of equal duration. The seven tâlas are again divided each into five "jâtis," so that there are in use no fewer than thirty-five distinct measures. It is in this flexibility of measure as well as, when desired, of musical interval that non-harmonic music, of which the Indian is the foremost modern example, differs altogether from our Western harmonic music. It is probable the old Greek music differed similarly in the licence which this flexibility allows. But in Hindu music the employment of srtis, or intervals less than semitones, is now limited to grace.

The Hindustani system of music is practised chiefly by Mussalman musicians. It has been affected by Arabic and Persian influence, and is less learned and refined than the Karnatic. According to Capt. Day, the same importance is not attached to melodic form, but great attention is given to minute distinctions between the râgas, which appear to be of the same origin in both systems, but are differently named. The scales or modes are only twelve, and these occur under other names in the more extensive Karnatic system, while two-thirds of them are common to the popular "thâts" of both divisions. On the whole, the Hindustani singing is preferred, even in the South; and the tuning, which allows the fourth to be always upon an open string, favours accompaniment. Capt. Day gives a copious selection of melodies of the Hindustani as well as the Karnatic system, and explains their very characteristic formation. He does not place the Hindustani melodies at any disadvantage when compared with the Karnatic, but considers them as charged with great beauty and inherent passion. All are much elaborated by grace notes, and the slide, or portamento, is of frequent occurrence. It is sufficient to refer to the air 'Ghuzal' on p. 87, sung in Gujarat, as a good example.

It is a recognized fact in European music that certain airs or compositions appertain to suitable hours, as may be demonstrated by the familiar "nocturne" or "Nachtstück." In the twenty-four hours' scheme of telephoned music described by Mr. Bellamy in 'Looking Back,' it may be inferred that choice would be exercised in programmes intended for the small hours, for dawn, noon, or sunset. But the Hindu musician thought of such a scheme ages ago with practical results; and although ancient authorities differ from modern custom, Capt. Day presents a diagram for the twenty-four hours, in eight divisions, for the appropriate performance of the popular râgas. Our author tells us that throughout India music and poetry go hand in hand. Their influence may be seen in almost every phase of native life, from the palace of the rajah to the humble dwelling of the ryot.

The drawings in this attractive book, for which Mr. William Gibb is responsible, are worthy of the high reputation he has gained in this department of art. The accuracy of draughtsmanship and beauty of colour are alike commendable, and the reproduction by chromo-lithography could not be surpassed. It is sufficient to call attention to the bin-sitar and taus, the sârinda and sârangi, the tamburi, yektar, and Persian sitâra, and the plates of drums. The wood engravings interspersed in the text are in a

high degree meritorious, and for fidelity of representation of the native musicians and their instruments are valuable additions. All the instruments drawn are very carefully, even minutely, described, and Capt. Day has added an excellent bibliography; but so copious a work should have had an index. An appendix contains an elaborate examination of a *s'rti vina* provided by his Highness the Rajah Sir Sourindro Mohun Tagore.

THE WEEK.

MOZART CENTENARY CONCERTS.
ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Sir Charles Halle's Concerts. The Popular Concerts.
SAVOY THEATRE.—Performance of Cornelius's Opera 'The Barber of Bagdad' by the Royal College of Music.

The centenary of Mozart's death was commemorated in the metropolis last Saturday with what may be termed maimed rites. The performances given in honour of the Salzburg master were confined to concerts, his operas only being represented by isolated airs included simply by way of relief to the orchestral music. This method of marking a noteworthy date in the calendar of music is characteristic, for opera has never taken deep root in this country, and a carefully prepared representation of 'Don Giovanni' or 'Die Zauberflöte' was out of the question. Within the scope imposed, however, the centenary was worthily solemnized alike at the Crystal Palace, St. James's Hall, and the Albert Hall. At Sydenham an adequate, if not an ideal, performance was secured of the 'Requiem,' the orchestra being faultless and the choir competent, though a little rough. The soloists, Miss Anna Williams, Miss Marian McKenzie, Mr. Henry Piercy, and Mr. Norman Salmon, apparently did not fully comprehend one another's intentions, for the *ensemble* was frequently defective. The 'Jupiter' Symphony and the 'Zauberflöte' Overture were, of course, perfectly rendered; and the only other item requiring mention was the 'Maurerische Trauer-Musik,' a funeral dirge composed in 1785 in memory of the Freemasons, 'Brothers Mecklenburg and Esterhazy.' The scoring is peculiar, comprising, besides strings, two oboes, one clarinet, three bassoon, horns in E flat and C, and a double bassoon. The little piece is marvellously expressive, and the major close is simply exquisite.

The Popular Concert programme included the favourite Divertimento in B flat, for strings and horns; the Pianoforte Fantasia in C and the Sonata in C minor, frequently associated with it; the Duet in E, for violin and viola; and the Pianoforte Trio in E. Sir Charles Halle played the works for piano with his usual chaste expression, and the executants in the duet were Madame Néruda and Mr. Straus. Mr. Santley contributed a remarkably vigorous rendering of the air 'Vedrò mentr' io sospiro,' from 'Le Nozze di Figaro,' and the song 'L'Addio,' which is as apocryphal as the Twelfth Mass. It was composed by Gottfried von Racquin for Count Hatzfeld, and, as Otto Jahn says, it contains some of Mozart's mannerisms, but it is wanting in his characteristic mode of expression.

The scheme at the Albert Hall was as to its main features a replica of that at the Crystal Palace. A magnificent performance of the 'Requiem' was given under Mr.

Barnby's direction, the singing of his choir being beyond all praise, while full justice was rendered to the solo parts by Mrs. Henschel, Madame Patey, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Watkin Mills. Mr. Henschel conducted the remainder of the concert, which included the 'Jupiter' Symphony; the fine chorus 'Godhead, throned in power eternal,' from the music to 'King Thamos'; and the tenor air 'Misero, o sogni,' which, as Jahn rightly says, is 'in chaste style, and instinct with noble, manly dignity.' It was, of course, superbly sung by Mr. Lloyd. A word of praise is due to Mr. Charles Fry for the fine declamation he displayed in reciting the fanciful ode, written by Mr. Joseph Bennett, which appears in the Mozart supplement to the *Musical Times*.

After a long absence from the platform Madame Néruda reappeared on Friday evening last week at the second of Sir Charles Halle's concerts. No falling off in her powers was observable in the *adagio* and *rondo* from Vieuxtemps's Concerto in E, which, by the way, she played on her first appearance as a matured artist at the Philharmonic concerts in 1869. The Manchester orchestra is always at its best in the music of Berlioz, and the rendering of the instrumental movements of the 'Roméo et Juliette' Symphony was nearly everything that could be desired. Some coarseness was noticeable in the Scherzo and Nocturne from Mendelssohn's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' music, but a fine performance was secured of Beethoven's 'Leonora' Overture, No. 3. A delicately scored and melodious Serenade in E flat, by Saint-Saëns, completed the programme.

Bach's Partita in C minor was performed for the first time at the Popular Concerts on Monday evening, the executant being Mr. Leonard Borwick. Only three of the six Partitas had previously been heard at these concerts, and not one since 1865. Taking into consideration the increasing admiration felt for Bach's music, this neglect is astonishing. The greater thanks are due to Mr. Borwick for the task he set himself on this occasion, and his execution thereof was worthy of the highest commendation. It is the fashion with many pianists to embellish Bach's music with various modern graces and modes of expression, but the young English artist did not indulge in exaggerations of any kind, his style being appropriately chaste and reserved. Madame Néruda gave a faultless rendering of the recitative and *adagio* from Spohr's Violin Concerto in C minor, No. 6; and excellent performances were secured of Beethoven's Quartet in C, Op. 59, No. 3, and the revised version of Brahms's early Trio in B, Op. 8. Miss Fillunger was, as usual, artistic in her delivery of songs by Schubert and Brahms.

The thanks of musicians are due to the authorities of the Royal College of Music for the preparation and performance of Peter Cornelius's opera 'Der Barbier von Bagdad.' After twenty-seven years of neglect this work was revived at Munich in 1885, and has now taken the position in Germany its merits deserve. A perusal of the score affords clear evidence that Cornelius must have been a musician of most remarkable gifts. If 'The Barber of Bagdad' had been composed subsequently to Wagner's 'Die Meistersinger' it would have

been said that Cornelius had taken that work as his model. But as a matter of fact the first-named work was produced in 1858, many years before any of Wagner's later music dramas saw the light. It seems strange that the amateurs of Weimar who had accepted 'Lohengrin' should have found the music of Cornelius unsuited to their tastes. Such was the case, however, and the utter failure of the opera was at any rate one of the causes why Liszt discontinued his labours as Capellmeister in Weimar. We should say that there were few, even among the younger pupils of the Royal College, present at Wednesday's performance who experienced the slightest difficulty in following the music. The greatest charm in the work is the ceaseless flow of fresh and piquant melody. Whether he is dealing with a sentimental or a humorous situation, Cornelius is equally at home, and one experiences the feeling that in every episode of the ludicrous libretto the musical accompaniment is precisely what it should be. But although the opera imposes no particular strain on the listener, it is far from easy. Cornelius indulges freely in cross rhythms and frequent changes of time, as well as chromatic progressions of the most modern character. Still, his part-writing, both for voices and orchestra, is far less intricate than that of Wagner in 'Die Meistersinger,' and the task assigned to the young performers, though certainly not slight, did not prove insuperable. We have no space to describe the score in detail, nor indeed is it necessary; enough that 'The Barber of Bagdad' may be accepted as a model of modern German comic opera, a form of art differing in many respects from that of France. The English version of the book, which it is needless to say is founded on the story in 'The Arabian Nights,' is from the pen of the Rev. Marmaduke Brown, who may be complimented on his careful execution of a troublesome undertaking. It would be manifestly unfair to criticize the performance from the highest standpoint, but the *ensemble* was quite as good as in previous years, the orchestra and chorus being, indeed, above reproach. Mr. Charles McGrath displayed rich promise, both as a singer and an actor, in the part of the ridiculous Barber; Miss Una Bruckshaw as the heroine Morgiana, and Miss Pattie Hughes as a duenna, both sang extremely well; and Mr. William White as the Cadi, and Mr. John Sandbrook as the Caliph, were unexceptionable. Mr. William Green, who impersonated the love-sick Nuredin, should endeavour to conquer his tendency to sing flat, as his light tenor voice is by no means unpleasant in quality. Prof. Villiers Stanford conducted the performance with his usual tact. 'The Barber of Bagdad' is to be repeated next Wednesday.

Musical Gossip.

THE suggestion of Sir George Grove that the original MS. scores of Beethoven's symphonies should be published in facsimile is about to bear rich fruit. Messrs. Breitkopf & Härtel inform us that a Beethoven Society is in course of formation, with Sir George Grove as president and a committee of eminent musicians, for the purpose of reproducing by photographic process not only the scores of Beethoven, but

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of other composers. The importance and interest of the undertaking will, of course, be apparent to musicians.

The Royal Amateur Orchestral Society began its winter season at St. James's Hall last Saturday evening, with a concert under the direction of Mr. George Mount. The programme included Spohr's symphony 'Die Weihe der Töne,' Sullivan's overture 'Di Ballo,' Mendelssohn's 'Ruy Blas,' Saint-Saëns's 'Jota Aragonaise,' and Mascagni's Intermezzo from 'Cavalleria Rusticana,' which will doubtless become a favourite concert piece. Mlle. Kleeberg played Mendelssohn's Pianoforte Concerto in D minor, and Madame Valda was the vocalist.

On Monday the Strolling Players' Amateur Orchestral Society gave a smoking concert at the Princes' Hall, the programme including a new suite constructed on M. Wormser's music to 'L'Enfant Prodigue.' Of this we may have something to say on another occasion.

The Stock Exchange Amateur Orchestral Society had its first concert for the season on Tuesday evening in St. James's Hall. Mozart's 'Jupiter' Symphony was on the whole well played, but Mr. George Kitchin's forces were scarcely up to their usual mark, considerable roughness being noticeable in Sullivan's 'In Memoriam' Overture, and even in Handel's so-called 'Largo,' and the fine Prelude to Prof. Stanford's 'Edipus Rex' music. Mr. J. F. H. Reed's choral ballad 'The Death of Young Romilly,' well sung by the male voice choir, is a creditable work for an amateur.

By a curious coincidence the four principal amateur orchestras in London were heard on consecutive evenings, making allowance for Sunday. The Westminster Society signalized its opening performance on Wednesday evening by an excellent programme, which deserves more lengthy notice than we can afford to give it. Prominent items were Prof. Bridge's effective ballad for male voices and orchestra, 'The Festival,' for the first time in its complete form; one of Mozart's Symphonies in C; a rather dull and uninteresting Pianoforte Concerto in D, by Dr. Horton Allison, played by Miss Elizabeth A. Nunn; and Sterndale Bennett's Pianoforte Concerto in F minor, of which Mr. Stewart Macpherson, the Society's conductor, was the executant.

On the same evening Messrs. Ludwig and Whitehouse gave the third of their chamber concerts in the Princes' Hall, the programme including Beethoven's Quartet in E minor, Op. 59, No. 3; Dvorák's Pianoforte Quintet in A, Op. 81; and the usual number of violin, violoncello, and pianoforte solos, the pianist being Miss Fanny Davies, and Miss Carlotta Elliot the vocalist.

We are pleased to learn that strenuous efforts are to be made to restore the prestige of the chorus at the next Leeds Festival, in October, 1892. Larger contingents are to be secured from Bradford, Huddersfield, Halifax, and Dewsbury, and local rehearsals are to be held in each of these towns. The intention is to make the choir thoroughly representative of the West Riding.

The prospectus of the Carl Rosa Opera Company's season at Liverpool has been issued. It is a highly ornate document, with portraits of the leading artists. Among the operas to be revived are Verdi's 'Aida,' Auber's 'Fra Diavolo,' Donizetti's 'L'Elisir d'Amore,' Meyerbeer's 'Le Prophète,' and Beethoven's 'Fidelio.' The season will commence on January 4th, and will extend over nine weeks.

Sir CHARLES HALLE wishes to hand over his Manchester concerts to a society to be formed in the first place for the purpose of building a new concert-room more convenient for orchestral and choral performances than the Free Trade Hall. He would also like to establish a conservatorium of music in the same building.

These important matters were put forward at a meeting last week, and a committee was appointed to consider them.

At the sale of copyrights of Messrs. Marshall, Limited, and others, at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's, last week, several well-known works were disposed of, and prices were generally high. The most notable were: Bervon's Welcome, ever welcome, friends, 77s. Hutchison's Dream Faces, 180s. Ehren on the Rhine, 101s. Pierrot, 216s. Side by Side, 113s. 18s. Silver Rhine, 103s. 19s. Under the Stars, 39s. 10s. When the children are asleep, 155s. 2s. Pontet's Last Milestone, 225s. Quentin's An Old Love Dream, 33s. 15s. Sleeping Camp, 47s. 12s. Bogie Man Waltz, 20s. 12s. Bogie Man Polka, 32s. 8s. Smallwood's Gems from Songland, 75s. 12s. Tchakoff's Cossack Dance, 142s. Vale Lane's Lyric Intermezzo, 48s. 9s. Paganini's Suites, arranged by J. Meissler, 140s. Bonheur's Standard Pianoforte Tutor, 424s. 10s., and Seven Positions of Violin, 40s. 6s. The total of the three days' sale amounted to a little over 4,000s.

'L'AMICO FRITZ' is in preparation at the Paris Opéra Comique, and Signor Mascagni has arrived to superintend personally some of the rehearsals.

BRAMHIS is said to have completed yet another string quintet and a pianoforte trio. Both will be performed for the first time in Vienna, the first by the Rosé Quartet, and the second by the Hellmesberger Quartet.

CONCERTS, &c., NEXT WEEK.

MON. Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
TUES. Musical Guild Chamber Concert, 8, Kensington Town Hall.
— Popular Concert, 8, 10s., 12s., 15s., 18s., 20s., 25s., 30s., 35s., 40s., 45s., 50s., 55s., 60s., 65s., 70s., 75s., 80s., 85s., 90s., 95s., 100s., 105s., 110s., 115s., 120s., 125s., 130s., 135s., 140s., 145s., 150s., 155s., 160s., 165s., 170s., 175s., 180s., 185s., 190s., 195s., 200s., 205s., 210s., 215s., 220s., 225s., 230s., 235s., 240s., 245s., 250s., 255s., 260s., 265s., 270s., 275s., 280s., 285s., 290s., 295s., 300s., 305s., 310s., 315s., 320s., 325s., 330s., 335s., 340s., 345s., 350s., 355s., 360s., 365s., 370s., 375s., 380s., 385s., 390s., 395s., 400s., 405s., 410s., 415s., 420s., 425s., 430s., 435s., 440s., 445s., 450s., 455s., 460s., 465s., 470s., 475s., 480s., 485s., 490s., 495s., 500s., 505s., 510s., 515s., 520s., 525s., 530s., 535s., 540s., 545s., 550s., 555s., 560s., 565s., 570s., 575s., 580s., 585s., 590s., 595s., 600s., 605s., 610s., 615s., 620s., 625s., 630s., 635s., 640s., 645s., 650s., 655s., 660s., 665s., 670s., 675s., 680s., 685s., 690s., 695s., 700s., 705s., 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At the evening performances at the Opéra Comique Mrs. Lancaster-Wallis and Mr. Edward Compton have reappeared in 'The Queen's Room' of Mr. Frankfort Moore. Mr. Compton has also reappeared as Young Wilding in an abridged version of Foote's comedy 'The Liar.' Mr. Compton has since appeared at an afternoon performance as Young Dornton in 'The Heir at Law.'

A FOUR-ACT drama, by Messrs. F. C. Philips and Percy Fendall, with the title of 'Margaret Byng,' was produced at the Criterion Theatre on Tuesday afternoon. It presents a new and most repulsive type of the adventuress who, to help her father and herself, embarks in dubious speculations and becomes incriminated in a murder. Miss Estelle Burney played the heroine in a manner recalling that of Miss Genevieve Ward. Mr. Charles Brookfield presented a Corsican murderer.

'ALONE IN LONDON' will be the next revival at the Princess's.

M. LOUIS DELAUNAY, the son of the great actor, will not appear in the character of the Misanthrope at the Odéon, as we announced in a former number. Having signed a four years' engagement at the Gymnase, he will make his *début* there in a new play by MM. Blum and Toc'hé, entitled 'Le Monde où l'on Flirte.'

The success of 'The Taming of the Shrew' and 'Edipe-Roi' at the Français has led to the postponement of M. Richépin's new play 'Par le Glaive,' which is not to be produced till the middle of January.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—E. M. S.—H. H. F.—T. A.—received.

H. H.—Hardly to the point.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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